KU KLUX KLAN - 1940 ALABALA

Tuscaloosa, Ala., News
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The Decatur Daily Nails A Lie

FROM the columns of the Decatur Daily comes one of the best lie-nailing articles it has been our pleasure to see in some time. The Daily denies en toto the claim of New York's new newspaper PM, to the effect that Lawyer Samuel Leibowitz, Scottsboro case counsel, was menaced by 200 hooded Klansmen at Decatur during one of the trials of the Scottsboro case defendants.

As we readily recall, Decatur weathered that trial with a consummate display of even temper, justice and equanimity. Even the New York correspondents, sent down to report the trial as a hair-raising episode in "Southern Justice" were forced to admit in print that Decatur publicly kept her skirts scrupulously clean of any untoward acts.

To the Decatur's answer to PM, we say "Amen Brothers Barrett Shelton and Ben Bloodworth." Here is what the Daily had to say under the uncompromising caption, "PM Is A Liar:"

"New York's newspaper 'PM' hasn't been in business long enough to establish a reputation for veracity but to keep the record straight, The Daily advises that in a recent article regarding the nomination for judge of Samuel Simon Leibowitz, PM is guilty of an out and out, bald-faced lie.

"PM says that in 1933 some 200 Klansmen, sheets flying and hackles up, rode on Decatur where the Scottsboro boys were on trial and that their quarry was Samuel Simon Leibowitz, counsel for the defendants.

"Had not militiamen, armed with machine guns, halted the Klansmen, PM says the courtroom dramas of future years would have been deprived of the colorful figure of Samuel Simon Leibowitz. PM's estimate of the gravity of that loss probably exceeds that of The Daily by a considerable margin, since The Daily would require a microscopic examination before it could discover any loss whatsoever.

"Debating the merits of Samuel Simon Leibowitz, or lack of them, however is not the purpose of this comment. If Brooklyn voters want Samuel Simon Leibowitz to sit on the judicial bench that is strictly the affair of the voters of Brooklyn, which city also happens to be the home of the Brooklyn Dodgers, commonly referred to as the daffiness boys.

"The Daily does challenge the statement of PM that Samuel Simon Leibowitz was the object of a march of Klansmen in Decatur, Alabama. The Daily does brand that statement of PM as absolutely lacking in truth. PM's staff writer simply wrote a lie and PM's editors printed it.

"No parade of Klansmen hunted Samuel Leibowitz in Decatur during the first Scottsboro trial or during any other trial here.

"As a matter of fact, which PM probably does not know (and doubtless doesn't even care about), Decatur is one of the few Southern cities which prohibits, by city ordinance, the parade of masked persons. This ordinance was in effect at the time Samuel Simon Leibowitz was not only imposing upon the patience of the people of Decatur, Alabama, but upon their hospitality.

"Had there been any such parade as PM mentions, the militia with a machine gun would not have been needed to halt it. The city police department would have broken it up as soon as it started and lodged the paraders in jail.

"It may be good for Samuel Leibowitz's candidacy in Brooklyn to picture him as another Daniel in the lion's den but if stating 200 Klansmen tried to attack him here results in elevating him to the bench, it means his victory was based on a ridiculous lie.

"While on the subject of Samuel Simon Leibowitz, the great humanitarian, The Daily trusts he read newspapers telling of the arrest in Detroit, Mich., of Olen Montgomery, one of the Scottsboro boys so long held up to the world by Samuel Simon Leibowitz as innocent victims of Alabama's legal passions.

Montgomery, once under sentence of death in the Scottsboro case, was taken into custody after a negro girl told police Montgomery ravished her after threatening her with a knife.

The Daily extends to Samuel Simon Leibowitz its congratulations upon the remarkable work of rehabilitation he accomplished in this case after Montgomery and several other of the defendants were released to him!

KLAN AGAIN IN ALABAMA

Upon the heels of revelations of a recent flogging at Elba comes the information that the Ku Klux Klan is again penetrating Alabama with immediate plans for Birmingham, Montgomery and Mobile, the three largest cities of the state.

If these three cities are aimed at in the first repenetration, then Anniston, Gadsden, Selma and Dothan cannot be far down the list of cities to be taken over in the program. Easily enough, unless the opposition is firm to the return of the Klan, it is not impossible to conceive of the kingdom of kloak and kudgel back in full power.

Must of us can remember not so many years back when the Klan was rampant in Alabama. Every public officer made his obeisance to it, else there was a great opposition to his remaining a public officer. Many floggings and intimidations were credited to the Klan. Their parades were held along the public streets, lighted only by the weird light of flares. Yes, it was quite a show, and there were our public officials, some of them in robes and some watching the parade.

Should we go back to that? Will a secret order be able to wrest the law from the hands of men chosen by the uncovered public and apply it according to their own viewpoints under the cover of darkness and with a lash?

The Kan has denied the many charges made against it. Even in Atlanta high Klan officials have denied any connection with the numerous floggings, one of them fatal. At the same time some small officers in Atlanta have admitted participating in floggings, according to reports.

The Ku Klux Klan may deny that it advocates the use of the lash in its efforts to make its influence felt, but the fact remains that in areas where the Klan has flourished there have been lashings. Anniston once had them; so did Birmingham and other cities. And if the central body of the Klan does not permit such as this, then why do the conditions obtain? Doesn't the central body of the Ku Klux Klan regulate its units as other lodges do?

Within the South the Klan is riding again, and unless the germ is stamped out it may be spread over the entire section again. The impetus gained in Georgia may serve to carry it across the borders of other states. Its activities already have been noted in Florida and in the Carolinas. Soon it may be back in Alabama, and its life will depend upon the will of the people—whether they will let it rise or whether they will recognize that it is not needed. No masked gang is wanted in this state.

At the outset of this article, we mentioned a flogging at Elba. This has not been connected with the Klan, nor is it likely to be, but it is an indication of what can occur if a revival of that hooded organization should encourage hoodlums to extract revenge from enemies while masked. Klansmen may not have been responsible for many of the acts charged to them during their previous rule. If not, then their existence encouraged men to take up masks and imitate the Klan.—Anniston Star.

Unmasking The Klan

If you would deal the Ku Klux Klan a knockout blow in Alabama, says *The Decatur Daily*, just prohibit parades by masked persons. Decatur has a prohibitory ordinance on the books, and presumably worries little about the Klan.

Decatur is to be congratulated on having had the wisdom to pass such an ordinance. We agree with *The Daily* that every city ought to prohibit parades by masked persons. Strip the mask from the Klan and you make it pretty much innocuous. Take off its hood and it might ultimately become very largely what it pretends to be but is not now, an organization devoted to protecting American principles through American institutions. Bring the Klan into the open, and very few persons will wish its death. For then its excesses can be curbed and the evil which hides beneath its robes can be controlled.

But ordinances prohibiting parades of masked bands are not alone sufficient to remove the harm of an organization which conceals the identity of its members. Ordinances are effective only within city limits. Klansmen of Decatur may ride out beyond the city limits and put on their masks and do what they please as far as the ordinance is concerned.

Most of the evil done by the Klan around 1925 in Alabama was committed outside city limits, and hence was beyond the reach of city authorities.

Furthermore, an ordinance prohibiting parades by masked persons would have been insufficient in Birmingham in that period of Klan activity. There were very few Klan parades in Birmingham, but quite a few bands went out from here to flog victims in near-by woods.

Birmingham has no ordinance placing a ban on parades by masked persons. There exist city laws, however, which, as long as we have city officials whose level of Americanism is well above that of the Klan, will prohibit parades by persons in disguise. No parade can be held in Birmingham except by direct permission of responsible city authorities. It is a simple matter to refuse a permit to any organization or group which has not the courage to allow the public to know who is parading. This newspaper has firm confidence that the present city administration will never issue a permit for a parade by masked and hooded persons.

There is another check which Birmingham has on parades of this sort. Following several parades in which license plates were concealed, an ordinance was passed concerning license tags which includes a provision requiring that all such tags shall be "unobscured and plainly visible at a distance of 50 feet." The tags, furthermore, shall be of the proper year and classification. A masked parade cannot hope for 100 per cent secrecy as long as automobile licenses can be checked, and for that reason, Birmingham may confidently hope that never again will it have to witness parades such as once disgraced our streets.

Despite all this, however, the desirability of an ordinance prohibiting parades by masked men is a point not to be forgotten. Such a prohibition may be one needed part in a fight against revival of the Klan, even though only a part.

In this morning's *Age-Herald* there is a dispatch from Atlanta saying that Imperial Wizard James A. Colescott has decreed the unmasking of the Klan. It is certainly to be hoped that the Klan is sincere in this move, and that it will never return to the hood again. Voluntary unmasking by the Klan itself is, after all, the best way to remedy the evil.

PERSONAL OPPRESSION IN ALABAMA

There are almost few enough mob lynchings and masked floggings in Alabama, but not quite. Our law enforcement agencies have developed a technique of handling such reversions to lynch law that is proving increasingly effective. However, there is another form of tyrannical rule rampant in Alabama that is the exact opposite of mob rule, but almost as deplorable. It is the personal oppression of political jobholders.

The Merit System freed large numbers of political jobholders from this type of oppression, but not all. Who are the others? They are teachers in those county school systems that are ruled by elective superintendents.

Montgomery County has no political jobholders in its public school teaching corps. No county in Alabama had political jobholders in its public schools in 1926. A law was then passed by the legislature making all county superintendents appointive by the elected board of education. Since that time various county school systems have, as a result in many cases of petty political feuds, been restored to the lowest and most contemptible forms of political debasement.

Without doubt many of the present county superintendents elected by the people are fine, intelligent, and fair-minded individuals. Some even have professional qualifications which would allow them to hold a superintendent's position in an appointive system. But political selection of what should be a highly trained officer is bound to fall afoul of the silver-tongued promiser sooner or later. The policy can wreck a school system. Considered specifically, it can also disturb or wreck the lives of those individual teachers who are engaged upon their professional tasks to find in the end that a petty whim had made it a political job. Even those fair-minded, intelligent, and well trained superintendents who bless a few of the elective offices in the state are inevitably pressed by political expediency at times. When there are no rules in the game, it is impossible to maintain a balance of justice to all who engage in it. Even when there are rules, the balance can sometimes be disturbed.

In the April issue of The Alabama School Journal Mrs. Delphine Giers, an instructor of the Kate Duncan Smith High School, tells of "The Teachers' Nightmare" under the elective superintendent. We quote in part:

"New superintendents seem to take office with an immense chip on their shoulder. Why should they? There are they, and there are we, all ready to go to work and to give them our best endeavors and support.. Do they appreciate or realize it? . . .

"Twice during the past fourteen years it has been my lot to suffer under a change of administration. I use the word 'suffer' advisedly. The first time I was teaching in one of the best and most progressive high schools in north Alabama . . . There was a student and faculty council, in which the teachers were only advisers, which really functioned. The children took pride in running the school and readily accepted responsibility . . . There were two literary societies which held a famous debate every spring, clubs of many kinds, a lively alumni association. Enter the new superintendent,

and exit everything else. Our principal was forced to resign before Christmas, and the rest of us knew our heads would be on the block the following spring—and they were. That man killed clubs, debates, alumni associations and student government. No one would recognize the place today, or the student body. The school built up through ten years of hard and often discouraging work was spiritually killed in nine months. Why should such things be permitted?

"In the second calamity which befell me the superintendent began by lowering salaries . . . He told us that he could pay any teacher as little as he pleased, that those who were discontented would be 'weeded out' and that he could even take money from one of us to give it to another! That he proceeded to do, taking $5 each from four of us who held B.S. degrees and giving it as a raise to another who held no degree at all . . . He gave one teacher holding a B.S. $110 and another in the same school system, and with the same amount of experience $90; but he raised the salaries of those who had had only two years of training.

"He lately held a meeting at which he told us that if our schools were to be accredited we must teach eight months, but that he had not enough money to pay us for that length of time . . . At the beginning of this misery one of us wrote to Montgomery asking why salaries were being reduced, and the reply from Dr. R. L. Johns was that this county has available this year considerably more money than last year. If this is correct, why is there not sufficient money for the same length of term?"

Mrs. Giers's article is abbreviated, of course, but it still conveys something of the broad picture of personal oppression that so often is the reflection of the elective method of selecting school superintendents.

What can be done about such a condition? School authorities feel hopeless about it, but the people themselves can change matters if they will but investigate the personal motives of those who cry, "return the schools to the people," in support of the elective superintendency. Upon close inspection, it appears that the elective method of selecting the superintendent is tantamount to taking the schools away from both the people and the teachers and giving them in entirety to petty politicians.

Five Accused As Two Women Are Flogged By Elba Night Riders

Pair Brutally Whipped, Ordered To Leave Area By Eight Masked Men

ELBA, Ala.—(AP)—Justice was demanded Saturday by Solicitor J. Alex Huey for robed and masked night riders he said beat one woman as she lay in bed and dragged another from her home and left her body a mass of lash-inflicted welts.

Charges of "flogging while masked" were lodged against five men. He reported "at least eight" men took part in the floggings March 6 and suggested a special Grand Jury might be called to delve deeper into the offenses.

The solicitor listed Mrs. Audie Johnson, about 38, as flogged in bed by a band that broke into her home at night, and Miss Lodell Hall, 17, as dragged outside her residence to be lashed savagely.

Both were ordered to leave the community, he declared.

The prosecutor said Fred Redmon, Charles McPherson and Tobe Nelson had been indicted, and Allan Johnson and Luther Pope arrested on the flogging charges. All are free on bond.

The charges were brought under a 1927 Alabama law prescribing one to 10 years in prison for masked flogging.

Atty. Gen. Thomas S. Lawson was called into the investigation at the suggestion of Gov. Dixon.

Solicitor Huey said that "in my judgment, no klan had anything to do with" the floggings.

The whippings occurred in a rural community 10 miles south of Elba. The solicitor said the woman and girl had left the area under threats of the night riders.

According to Huey, six men entered the home occupied by Mrs. Johnson, her daughter-in-law, and lashed Mrs. Johnson, while holding the son-in-law at pistol point. The son-in-law was knocked down by one man.

The other house entered was occupied by the 17-year-old girl, her 52-year-old mother, described by the solicitor as a cripple; a 16-year-old sister and 12-year-old brother. The elder girl was taken out and whipped while the others were forced to remain in the house.

Huey said information given him was that the night riders wore "aprons" and toboggans and had their faces painted and that two wore masks.

"A thing of that sort cannot go unpunished in my circuit," Huey said. "And I will not ease up on the investigation until all guilty participants are apprehended." He said those accused, when questioned, denied guilt.

Flogging Trial Set For Thursday

By Associated Press

ELBA, ALA., June 8.—Three men, facing maximum penalties of 10 years' imprisonment, will go on trial here Thursday on charges of flogging a Coffee County matron.

The defendants were listed by Solicitor J. Alex Huey as Tobe Nelson, Fred Redmon and Charles McPherson, accused of beating Mrs. Audie Johnson as she lay in bed on the night of March 6.

At Montgomery, Atty. Gen. Thomas S. Lawson revealed he had assigned Asst. Atty. Gen. Willard McCall to aid in prosecution of the case, with Asst. Solicitor Jim Long, of Jefferson County, engaged as special prosecutor.

Huey said a band of masked men—from their disguise apparently unidentified with any organization—broke into Mrs. Johnson's home and whipped her as she lay in bed. Lodell Hall, 17, was said to have been taken from the Johnson house and whipped at the same time.

Two men have been charged with whipping the Hall girl, the solicitor added, but no indictments have been returned.

Lawson Fortifies For Flogging Trial

Jim Long, Of Jefferson, Is Added To Prosecution

Atty. Gen. T. S. Lawson told The Advertiser yesterday that Jim Long, one of the State's crack prosecutors, would participate in the prosecution of three Coffee County men on charges of flogging two women last spring.

Long is assistant circuit solicitor in Jefferson County and has a State-wide reputation as a wheelhorse.

The Attorney General selected Asst. Atty. Gen. Willard McCall to work with Long in the trial.

The trial begins Thursday at Elba. Circuit Solicitor J. Alex Huey had requested Gov. Dixon and the Attorney General to engage the prosecutors for him.

The women were lashed by a group of men at night. One was disrobed and flogged in her bed; the other dragged to the roadside.

Solicitor Huey, who resides at Enterprise, said that the flogging resulted from a brawl between some school children, relatives of the victims and their assailants.

Nelson Acquitted In Flogging Case

By Associated Press

ELBA, ALA., June 13.—A Circuit Court jury late today acquitted Tobe Nelson, Coffee County ruralist, of a charge that he participated in the night-rider flogging of Mrs. Audie Johnson, 38.

The jury took the case after a brief and orderly trial, during which the State asked the maximum punishment of 10 years' imprisonment, and returned a verdict of innocent within a few minutes.

Nelson pleaded an alibi, producing witnesses to testify he was at a peanut shelling at his home.

Court attaches expressed the opinion flogging charges against two others, Fred Redmon and Charles McPherson, will be delayed until the next term of Coffee Circuit Court because of an already crowded docket.

The State charges the men, all wearing masks, beat Mrs. Johnson as she lay in bed the night of March 6, when Lodell Hall, 17, was dragged from her home, 10 miles south of Elba, and lashed.

Two other men, Allan Johnson and Luther Pope, were arrested in the floggings. No indictments, however, have been returned against them.

Nelson and McPherson swore assault and battery warrants against Mrs. Johnson, two of her daughters and Lodell Hall in April, but they waived preliminary trial and automatically placed the case before the grand jury.

Willard McCall, assistant attorney general, and Jim Long, assistant Jefferson County solicitor, were sent here by Asst. Atty. Gen. Thomas S. Lawson to aid Circuit Solicitor J. Alex Huey in prosecution.

KLU KLUX KLAN*- 1940

Advice To The Klan

A Ku Klux Klan organization has been started in Birmingham, according to an Atlanta statement by J. A. Colescott, imperial wizard. (Some day we would like to raise a question about why a Klan head is either imperial or a wizard.) His own words were "A new activity has been opened up at Birmingham." That may mean that a large Klan has been organized here, or that three men met one midnight in an attic with sheets wrapped around them and discussed such technical questions as what kind of whips raise the biggest welts.

A cynic, basing his opinion on the record, especially on the record made by the Klan in Alabama about a decade and a half ago and also in Georgia in recent months, might be tempted to suggest to his imperial wizardry a few desirable qualifications for application for membership.

In the first place, no person should be admitted to Klan membership who can give any sort of sound definition of Americanism.

Second, the prospective member should believe that if anybody disagrees with him he is subject forthwith to punishment without benefit of law or court.

Third, the applicant should be willing to take oath that he knows more about justice than all the judges and that the laws of evidence and procedure mean nothing to him.

Fourth, the applicant must prefer deeds done at night to deeds done by day.

Fifth, the applicant should be able to provide his own sheet and hood, shields to cover the license plate of his automobile, hobnail boots to kick a victim with when he is down, and matches to use in setting fire to another person's property.

Sixth, the prospective member must swear not to tell on his fellows because there are some who might be ashamed if the truth became known.

Seventh, the applicant should show expert knowledge of disguises and masquerades and of how to conceal one's movements.

Eighth, the applicant must deny the old American idea that publicity is the best cure for public evils, because no good klansman wants the public to know what he does.

Ninth, the prospect should agree to put behind him all that old nonsense about the upright man being one who could let the whole world know what he did.

Tenth, the prospective klansman should not have the slightest idea about the meaning of such words as tolerance and liberalism.

These suggestions, we insist, are in keeping with the Klan as it may be judged from its record of this century. And if any persons join the Klan who cannot meet these qualifications, then they are out of place. Only those who can pass the tests outlined, and similar tests, really belong in the Klan, as operated in recent years.

NO ROOM FOR KLAN

The imperial wizard, or grand cyclops, or some other such high-titled functionary of the Ku Klux Klan at Atlanta announced that he was extending his organization again into Alabama.

He mentioned two or three cities, particularly Birmingham, Mobile and Opelika, where missionary work was being done and an organization set up.

His announcement came on the heels of the unsavory disclosures regarding Klansmen's activities in and around Atlanta, where more than a dozen have been indicted, and hundreds of others are under investigation, for brutal whippings and floggings. A barber out at East Point was even killed a few months ago by a band of the hooded gentry.

Alabama ought to remember a decade ago well enough to steer clear of another Klan invasion.

Of course, it is a convenient organization to join if you want to whip some of your neighbors or work off some petty grudges; especially so, if one has not the courage to do the job in broad daylight, and individually.

It's a fine organization, too, if there is desire to stir up strife and tear a community all to pieces; to set neighbor against neighbor, class against class.

But we have an idea that Alabama has progressed enough in the last decade to have gotten beyond this kind of ignorant, pusillanimous stuff; that it has learned something from its previous experience; and that its people are too wise to shell out their money and spend their time in pulling chesnuts out of the fire for some outsiders.

There is no justification whatever for any Klan organization in this state. We don't want its stigma upon us.—Huntsville Times

The Elba Floggings

The ugly head of the flogging evil has raised itself again in Alabama. A revival of this form of mob violence, which plagued and shamed Alabama about 13 years ago, has come to light at Elba with the arrest of five men on charges of flogging two women.

This crime was committed a month ago. Solicitor J. Alex Huey has now made the facts known after the indictment of three men and the arrest of two others, all charged with "flogging while masked." He says that at least eight men took part in the flogging.

ALABAMA

The hideous story of the floggings perpetrated by a masked mob of nightriders, as related by Solicitor Huey, is that on the night of March 6 the men broke into the home of a 38-year-old woman, in a rural community 10 miles from Elba, and lashed her as she lay in bed, meanwhile holding her son-in-law at pistol point after knocking him down; and that they then entered another house, where they seized a 17-year-old girl, dragged her outdoors and flogged her "until not a place on her body the size of a dime remained unbruised."

This girl lived in a house with her 52-year-old mother, described by the solicitor as a cripple, a 16-year-old sister and a 12-year-old brother. The only reason the girl was not lashed in the presence of her crippled mother and her younger sister and brother is that the floggers were kind and considerate enough to drag her outdoors, while forcing the others to remain in the house.

* * *

This is the revolting story of brutality that comes out of Elba. Why it has only now come to light, when the crime was committed a month ago, is not explained. Perhaps the victims were afraid to report the outrage to the authorities, or to let others report it while they remained in the community. At any rate, the two women, intimidated by the masked mob's order to leave the community, have now left the area, and the story comes out.

All Alabama will be gratified over Solicitor Huey's expressed determination to bring every one of the floggers to justice. "A thing of that sort cannot go unpunished in my circuit," he declares. "And I will not ease up on the investigation until all guilty participants are apprehended."

* * *

The law-abiding citizens of Coffee County should let Solicitor Huey and the sheriff of the county know at once that they are solidly behind the authorities in this matter. Public opinion down there should become vocal, so that sneaking floggers and potential floggers, who always make up just a small fraction of the population, will know that it will not be safe for them to go abroad at night, with their faces covered, and whip someone to whom they object.

This crime near Elba should be speedily punished, and severely punished, lest the flogging evil spread to other counties. Alabamians know only too well how this form of mob violence can spread. Right now we see that a revival of floggings is threatened not only in Alabama, but elsewhere. In Georgia recently there have been a number of floggings, including one in which the victim was beaten to death.

* * *

There exists in the South a renewed threat of lawlessness by masked bands. The revived activity of the Ku Klux Klan which may be noted, although it may be exaggerated, is a part of this menace. The Klan may deny any part in floggings or other unlawful acts, but as a masked and secret order it must share the blame for all such offenses in this section. Wherever, or as long as, the Klan exists, flogging bands will go forth at night, knowing that a scapegoat exists in the Klan, even where the Klan is not guilty. And it is a matter of record, of course, that Klan members have been guilty of many floggings and other acts of mob violence.

There is no need in this country for masked bands. There is no evil that cannot be attacked by the law-enforcement agencies and the courts of the land more effectively than hooded men can do it. There is no deserved punishment which cannot be administered with more justice through the courts than through lawless bands operating at night.

* * *

No mob must be allowed to take any kind of matter into its own hands in Alabama. The people of this state will not tolerate floggings, as they showed in 1927. There seems to be a danger that the lesson taught then is being forgotten. It should be taught again, and quickly, before the former lesson is further forgotten.

This newspaper has no doubt, incidentally,

that flogging has cropped out again in Alabama because floggers have been getting by with murder — literally — in the adjoining state of Georgia. As we have remarked more than once before, lawlessness begets lawlessness, and mob violence feeds upon mob violence. If it is not checked at once, it will grow and spread.

Quick punishment of the guilty ones in the Elba case will do more than anything else to prevent the flogging evil from spreading anew in Alabama as it has done in Georgia. If the men under arrest at Elba are found to be not guilty, then the authorities should not rest until they have rounded up and convicted all who are guilty.

Stop Floggings Now!

Further accounts of the floggings in Coffee County make them appear even more despicable than they seemed when they first came to light. For instance, Hugh Sparrow, in a special dispatch to *The News* from Elba, reports that the flogging of two women by a band of masked men grew out of nothing more serious than a quarrel between school children.

The authorities have disclosed that one of the victims, a girl of 17, overheard one of a group of school girls make some abusive remarks about her kinfolks, and that she "took up" for them. That night she was dragged from her home and beaten severely by several men who accused her of "starting a fuss," according to reports of the investigation. The other victim, a 38-year-old woman who also was related to some of the children involved in the quarrel, was flogged as she lay in bed, and was cut and bruised so badly that she was under a physician's care for several days. In addition, it is said that the floggers struck her son-in-law several times after holding him at pistol point while she was being beaten.

Five men are either under indictment or under arrest in connection with the floggings. Circuit Solicitor J. Alex Huey has said that eight men took part in them.

An ironic turn of events is the arrest of the two women themselves, from all accounts brutally beaten, on charges of assault and battery. Warrants for their arrest were sworn out by two of the men charged with participation in the floggings. The women are charged with assault and battery in connection with the school children's quarrel. They have denied resorting to violence in the quarrel, but they say that there was a heated discussion.

Solicitor Huey has properly said that the issuance of these warrants against the mob victims will not retard the investigation into the floggings, but that it will go on until it has been carried to a "full, thorough and complete" conclusion.

The solicitor realizes the importance of prosecuting vigorously this first flogging case to arise in Alabama since the combined forces of the law and public opinion put a stop to gang floggings in this state 13 years ago. He understands the danger that one flogging may lead to another if the evil is not sternly dealt with at once.

"Mob violence is a dangerous thing," Solicitor Huey says. "When men gang up to satisfy the personal grievances of two or three of their number against another, then each and every member of the gang may have some personal grievance which he feels should have attention, and thus they become obligated to each other to help wreak their vengeance upon whomsoever any one of their number may have some complaint. And so on and on, gaining momentum with each new flogging until someone is killed. For this reason I am determined when the serpent of mob violence dares raise its head in my circuit, it may expect vigorous action to see that it will not dare do so again for a long time."

That is well said, and Mr. Huey deserves the commendation of all the state for his vigorous and determined attitude. In the foregoing paragraph he makes an accurate analysis of the way in which the flogging evil spreads.

We have recently seen, in the neighboring state of Georgia, how the flogging evil takes just the course outlined by Mr. Huey. In the vicinity of Atlanta a series of floggings was climaxed by a case in which the victim of a gang of floggers was beaten to death. In Georgia the flogging evil got out of hand. With each new flogging, the floggers became more bold, until now they are sending threats to law-enforcement officials.

In Alabama we must not let the flogging evil get started again. We must stop floggings now!

Two Women Flogged By Coffee Gang

Grand Jury Indicts Trio As Governor Orders Special Investigation

Lawson Called In

Indignant State, County Officials Move To Punish Those Guilty Of Outrage

By GROVER C. HALL, JR.

A Coffee County grand jury on March 21 indicted three farmers for the savage masked flogging of two women.

Two others have been arrested since and are at liberty in $500 bail.

State and county investigators are seeking as many more as accessories.

The disclosures were made last night by Circuit Solicitor J. Alex Huey when The Advertiser approached him with its tip.

The Advertiser learned that Gov Dixon was so stirred by the savagery of the floggings that he dispatched two special investigators to assist Solicitor Huey.

The Governor suggested that Solicitor Huey enlist the aid of Atty. Gen. T. S. Lawson and his staff.

Lawson Enters Sift

Solicitor Huey acquiesced in the Governor's suggestion and made the request of the Attorney General. Atty. Gen. Lawson accepted, it was learned.

The flogging occurred between 8 and 9 o'clock the night of March 6 in the Brooklyn community, 10 miles from Elba.

The victims were given by Solicitor Huey as:

Miss Lodell Hall, 17.

Mrs. Audie Johnson, about 38.

The attack, embellished with snarling warning of a return visit if the women did not flee the community, was said by the solicitor to have grown out of a brawl between a group of school girls.

The solicitor said true bills had been returned against these:

Fred Redmon, Charles McPherson, Tobe Nelson, all farmers and residents of Brooklyn community.

The solicitor identified the pair subsequently jailed on the same charge as Allan Johnson and Luther Pope, also of Brooklyn.

Some of these were identified by the women victims, the solicitor said.

The attire of the floggers was reminiscent of the Ku Klux Klan (though unrelated apparently) and was not without an aura of the fantastic.

The solicitor quoted the women as saying that their assailants bedecked their physiques in such as aprons and knitted caps. Their faces were blackened with burnt cork or the like, or handkerchief-masked and their eyes were circled with "a red something" in some cases.

In Fantastic Attire

The men, Mrs. Johnson was quoted as saying, broke in her home and found her in bed. The floggers, whoever they were, adjusted her nightgown indecently to expose her to the lash, Mrs. Johnson said.

'Teen-age Miss Hall was dragged from her home and lashed in the road; she was protected somewhat by overalls.

The solicitor said he saw the women 12 days after the assault.

"There was no place the size of a dime not bruised on Mrs. Johnson," Solicitor Huey said. "The girl's mother told me that she had 16 stripes on her arms and others on her back—all of which oozed blood."

The mobsters, the solicitor is informed, kept other members of the Hall and Johnson households at bay with pistols.

The men dispensed several whacks to Mrs. Johnson's son-in-law, William Bess, about 21.

Anti-Flogging Act

Solicitor Huey said he and the Attorney General would proceed against the men under an act of 1927 which outlaws "flogging while masked." The penalty is from one to 10 years, he said.

The trial will likely be in June, depending on the quickness with which other supposed participants are apprehended.

The school girls involved in the altercation were in their early 'teens and were students at nearby Basin School. It started as they alighted from the bus after school.

One of the participants, it was understood, is the daughter of Mrs. Johnson, a widow; another the daughter of McPherson, one of the three under indictment. There was a general melee on a bridge.

Miss Willie Mae Sasser, about 25, a sister of Mrs. Johnson, is understood to have intervened and perhaps slapped McPherson's daughter.

Miss Hall, the other victim, was said to have been a non-participating bystander, viewing events from her vantage point under the bridge.

Things Begin to Happen

When the students wended their way home they recited their versions of the episode. Then things began to happen.

Solicitor Huey said that three men went to a justice of the peace to learn how two women might be forced to depart the community. The justice of the peace said only the landlord could break the lease.

That night six men (the sixth had not been arrested) snapped the latch on the screen door when Mrs. Johnson denied them admittance, it was related. Her daughter and son-in-law were told they would go unmolested if they did not intervene.

Mrs. Johnson reported that three of the six held pistols, the solicitor recounted.

Two Remain Hidden

The door was similarly forced at Miss Hall's home. The attack upon her apparently was less severe. At Miss Hall's home two of the men remained in the shadowy recesses, presumably in fear of recognition.

Solicitor Huey explained that some involved in the flogging did not enter the two homes, but waited outside. These are being sought with equal vigor.

"It isn't generally known yet, there having been nothing in the papers, the victims have left Brooklyn. Miss Hall went to Opp and Mrs. Johnson is in Elba. They left the next day.

"I can say this. There won't be any let-up until all the offenders are where they belong."

6 Fined For Flogging Of Ark. Pastor

WYNNE, Ark., April 26—Rev. L. Nichols, Baptist minister, saw himself avenged this week when the six men who flogged him in a field were fined $50 and cost in the local court.

All six men confessed to the beating of the minister, but the cause was not revealed. It was hinted that it grew out of a family tangle. The men fined were A. O. Fitzhugh, John Ross, George Robinson, Tim Jeffries, George and Odel Dickerson.

When Reverend Nichols took the stand he said that the Dickerson brother came to his home and told him that George wanted to get married to a girl living in the country and they left in the preacher's automobile.

"When we reached the northeast edge of the city Odel Dickerson drew a gun and I was forced into a field where we were joined by three others."

SAY CROSS BURNINGS BY KLAN SHOULD HAVE ATTENTION OF DIES

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 29—With a feeling of apprehension among citizens growing as the result of renewed Ku Klux Klan activity here, local leaders are discussing plans to demand that the Dies committee investigate them also while "cleaning" up the coast of "Reds."

Seemingly encouraged by the government's drive against un-American organizations, Klan groups here have made several recent public demonstrations. Keeping silent on their former platform of anti-Jew and Catholic, and anti-Negro, they have been declaring that they are after driving out communism. But Negro observers of the movement place little faith in their confining their activities to the Reds of enemy aliens alone. They feel that as soon as they have sufficiently regained the strength lost more than ten years ago, they will direct their antagonism to Negroes especially.

Last week for the first time in ten years, a public meeting was held in Santa Anna once a hot-bed of Klan activity. Dressed in their white robes they burned a 20-foot fiery cross in the public square. Several weeks previous to this, a similar incident took place at Englewood a suburb that not only contains no Negro residents, but is notably prejudiced against them. On two separate occasions, Klansmen in full regalia have stood on the steps of the Polytechnic high school just 10 blocks away from the heart of downtown Los Angeles and distributed circulars, praising their order and denouncing all not "100 per cent American."

Accuse Los Angeles Mayor Of Aiding Klan

LOS ANGELES. — Mayor Fletcher Bowron this week was charged with giving the "backdoor key" of Los Angeles to the Ku Klux Klan. Robert Robinson, executive secretary, Los Angeles council of the National Negro Congress, made the accusation in a statement sharply criticising Bowron for his refusal to condemn the Klan's recent activities here.

The mayor has issued a statement upholding the Klan's "civil liberties" and declaring that there was "no legal way" to halt the hooded vigilantes.

"Mayor Bowron's attitude regarding the Ku Klux Klan is shocking to all the Negro community as well as to church and civic minded people throughout the city," asserted Robinson.

"The National Negro Congress asked Mayor Bowron not for a legal opinion regarding the activities of the Klan but for a public condemnation of the Klan's un-American activities.

"As I see it, the mayor's statement in reply to the request of the National Negro Congress gives the go-ahead signal to the K.K.K. and places the city of Los Angeles at their disposal.

"The mayor is approving the revival of the K.K.K. in California and is condoning the Klan program of inciting race hatred, religious bigotry and employer vigilantism, which has marked the history of the organization since it came into power.

"The Negro people, however, will fight to the last ditch to stamp out Klan activity and in this fight we will not be alone because Catholics, Jews and other minority religious and racial groups as well as organized labor are targets of the K.K.K.," Robinson said.

Klan Insults Race In Raid On Newsie

LOS ANGELES (CNA)—The insulting epithet "nigger" was used by unidentified whites who raided a newsstand here this week and walked off with copies of the People's World, West Coast Progresive paper.

The raiders left slugs at the newsstand of Phil Brickman marked: "KKK. Nigger Loving Reds." "KKK Fifth Column Beware."

POLICE CHIEF DEMOTED!

Los Angeles—(CNA)—Police Chief Cecil T. Truschel of Culver City, who had admitted membership in the terrorist Ku Klux Klan, was back pounding a beat this week.

For months, Culver City's council has been hearing charges of Truschel's Klan activities, misconduct and mistreating of subordinates.

This week, the city fathers stripped Truschel of his gold band and demoted him to the position he held when he first joined the force 17 years ago.

KLAN ORDERS 2 PASTORS OUT OF FLA. TOWN

Expect Terrorist Action As One Of Clergymen Ignores Warning

CLEARWATER, Fla., March 15—Citizens here were this week awaiting what is viewed as a showdown between police and the law-abiding elements, and a local organization of the Ku Klux Klan.

Indications pointed to a close alliance between law enforcers and the outlaw K.K.K. Saturday when police informed Rev. A. F. Harris, pastor of the newly built St. Mathews Baptist church, that they would not be responsible for his safety if he ignored orders of the Klan to leave town.

Another minister, Rev. H. B. Hart, pastor of New Baptist church, left the city Sunday after a hooded mob wrote letters to both prelates warning them to get out of town and stay. Flaming crosses were burned in the front yards of the ministers' homes Sunday night "as a final warning."

Reverend Harris was advised by police authorities to obey the Klan's orders, when he took the threatening letter to them and asked protection. A time limit of 48 hours was set for the ministers to leave.

The ouster orders are said to have resulted from disputes between rival factions in each of the two churches. Church groups opposed to the ministers' incumbency are said to have taken their grievances to the klan organization and requested that the pastors be made to resign.

This version, supplied by local police, was scouted however, when it became known that the Klan had also ordered all Race shopkeepers to remove any form of advertisement containing the picture of a white woman, from their places of business. Similiar Klan activities were under way this week in Largo. Fla.

Klan Parade Irks White, Colored Coast Leaders

LOS ANGELES—(ANP)—Stirred into action by sympathetic liberal-minded members of the white race a number of local readers are discussing plans to have legal authority present the repetition of a public Klan demonstration made last Saturday night.

Robed and hooded in the regulation white "night-shirt" uniform and wearing on their breasts the cross-shaped insignia of the Mystic Knights of the Ku Klux Klan 20 men paraded for over two hours through downtown streets, Except that they wore no masks the procedure was the same as those held in secluded forests in the south as campaigns of terrorism are launched against Negroes. The group that marched Saturday is known as "Los Angeles Klavern No. 1."

Appearing suddenly on the steps of the City Hill as if either sanctioned by or daring the law the Klansmen traversed Spring street to First, west one black to Broadway then north to Eighth, the busiest section of the downtown business district. All along the line they distributed thousands of hand-bills denouncing communism. Readers of the bills were surprised at not finding there also the standard Klan declaration against "Negroes, Catholics and Jews." Nevertheless, many remarks were heard that the communism denunciation was merely a subterfuge preparatory to a later bold renewal of both written and personal attacks on the other three hated groups.

As news cameramen from the Metropolitan dailies hurried to locate the marchers who were soon joined by scores of uniformed Klansmen a white traffic cop was asked which way they went. "I didnt see any Klansmen, he answered, "but I did see a bunch of High School boys dressed in white gowns, I guess they were having initiation".

Negro Leader Challenges Dies on KKK

Would Debate Him on Poll Tax and 'Fifth Column'

(Special to the Daily Worker)

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 1.—Pettis Perry, Negro County chairman of the Los Angeles Communist Party yesterday challenged Martin Dies to a public debate on the charge that the poll tax Congressmen does not represent the people of his Texas district. Releasing the chalenging letter, Perry laid forth facts condemning Dies' home state as "ratting third in the nation with a very disgraceful record of lynchings."

"I offer to debate with you on the question that you do not represent the people of your district," said Perry.

"Furthermore, we the Negro people, and our friends, have demanded that you investigate the Ku Klux Klan. Who can be so naive as not to understand that the Ku Klux Klan not only advocates violence, but commits it?"

Reminding that the Klan is exceptionally strong in Texas and paraded in Los Angeles streets just before Dies' recent visit here, Perry asked:

"Why haven't you investigated the KKK? To ask the question is to answer it; you are not interested in the KKK, nor are you interested in any other real fifth columns of the U. S.

Ku Kluxers Stand for Americanism, Wizard Declares

CHICAGO — James A. Colescott, imperial wizard of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, declared here, last week, that "the klan is now solely interested in promoting Americanism, the program for which it was founded after the Civil War."

To prove his assertion, he said that the East Point (Georgia) "klavern" had been abolished when eight of its members were convicted for flogging a colored citizen. One member of the klavern, convicted of the whipping, was "banished," he declared.

He did not explain whether the "banishment" was punishment for the whipping or for getting caught.

INVESTIGATION OF KLAN BY DIES URGED BY NAACP MESSAGE

NEW YORK CITY—Congressman Martain L. Dies, Chairman of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, was again urged by the NAACP to investigate the activities of the Ku Klux Klan and the German American Bund at Andover, New Jersey on August 18.

The NAACP letter quoted the statement of Dr. Edward D. Young, grand Kailiff of the Klan in New Jersey that the Klan "hopes to enroll many new members. Bundsmen who can qualify will be welcome."

In view of the statement of Congressman Dies that he was investigating the German-American Bund, the NAACP charged that the proposed merger of the Klan and Bund in New Jersey demonstrated the similarity of the programs of the two groups. For this reason Congressman Dies was requested to investigate the Ku Klux Klan unless he considered their activities American rather than "Un-American".

Congressman Dies has been requested several times by the NAACP to investigate the activities of the Klan in South Carolina, Florida, and other Southern states. Despite repeated efforts Congressman Dies and his committee have refused to investigate the activities of the Klan.

Merger Of "Klan" And "Bund" Hinted By NAACP

NEW YORK CITY—With the announcement here this week that the NAACP had again urged that the House Committee on un-American Activities to investigate the activities of the Ku Klux Klan it was immediately pointed that the present request coming on the eve as it does of the proposed Klan and German-American Bund meeting in Andover, New Jersey, August 18, may be directed towards reliable information that the Bunds and the Klans are planning a uniting campaign.

The NAACP letter quoted the statement of Dr. Edward D. Young, grand Kailiff of the Klan in New Jersey that the Klan "hopes to enroll many new members. Bundsmen who can qualify will be welcome."

Repeated efforts to get Congressman Dies to investigate the Ku Klux Klan have failed, but NAACP leaders are hopeful that this request will be fulfilled since Dies at the present time is in the midst of an investigation of the Bund activities.

COMMITTEE SEEKS ROOMS FOR VISITING DOCTORS

The local committee of housing for the National Medical Association which meets here August 12-16, requests that all citizens who have rooms available for quartering the visiting doctors and their families get in touch with either Dr. B. J. Covington or Dr. Perry Beale. Both are located in the Odd Fellows Temple and can be reached by calling Preston 6436 and Preston 2926 respectively.

Atlanta, Ga. Constitution
August 6, 1940

Editorial of the Day

POT AND KETTLE.

(From The Charlotte News.)

The New Jersey realm (sic) of the Ku Klux Klan has rented the German-American Bund Nordland, near Andover for the purpose of holding an all-day meeting there Sunday, August 18. Purpose of the sessions, says the Rev. Edwin H. Young, of Nutley, grand giant of the realm, is "testing the Americanism of the Bund."

Which seems to be a case of setting a thief to catch a thief.

The Ku Klux outfit is very loud in its professions of Americanism. So is the Bund. Merely both outfits insist on making their own definition of what constitutes Americanism.

The Bund definition has it that true Americanism consists in hatred of Jews, in recognizing that all other blood lines are inferior to German blood, that it si the proper business of Germans to rule in this country, and in bowing down to Hitler as the prophet of a new order, in which freedom of speech and thought will be mercilessly extinguished in concentration camps.

The Klan has it that Americanism consists in hatred of Negroes, Jews, and aliens—in recognizing that all other blood lines are inferior to Anglo-Saxon blood, even though it is enclosed in the body of the trashiest white trash, in suppressing Negroes, Jews, and aliens by brutal and illegal violence and in contempt for the rights guaranteed by the Bill of Rights.

The sole difference that we can see is that the Klan wants to set up barbarism by purely native talent, while the Bund wants to have it done by the master minds at Berlin.

Somehow, we don't believe much that is illuminating is going to come out of that session at Nordland, save a new demonstration that the Klan and the Bund are cut from the same cloth.

There Is a Limit.

Remember the time the village drunkard lay down in the gutter mud, and a hog wallowing near by got up and walked away?

Well, we note that the Grand Grunt of the New Jersey Ku Klux Klan has been removed for arranging that joint meeting with the German-American Bund.

TODAY AND TOMORROW

By JOHN H. SENGSTACKE

From the columns of the August 16 issue of The New World, organ of the Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago, we took the following note:

"The Klan has always found footholds of hysteria to work out their infamous programs. The New Jersey K.K.K. is gaming members hand over fist. The hills of Sussex and neighboring counties are littered with charred fiery crosses. There is no interference from local authorities. Marchers are permitted through villages. New Jerseyites are falling gullibly into nightshirt parades. The Kluxers are yelling about Americanism, pure and not so simple, as the background for their nocturnal operations."

The New World makes no comment, but we believe that one is necessary.

Fascism is being advanced under the hooded shirt and the fascist cries Americanism. "Footholds of hysteria" pave the way for the hooded men whose program calls for a murderous assault upon the Constitutional rights and civil liberties of Negroes, Catholics and Jews and, in fact, upon every minority group in our great country, save the minority of vested wealth and privileged interests which promotes the Klan.

That hysteria has been carefully edged along and nurtured until it has grown into a monster which serves only the will of the Klan, the many colored shirts we are giving birth to in America, and such gangsters as the so-called "Christian Front."

That hysteria had its birth in what men called defense. It is a war hysteria, for the program of the Klan is a war program. And the war is against the people of our own land. The war hysteria is bearing the seeds of what we pledged ourselves to prevent—the birth of fascism here at home.

That hysteria moves toward dictatorship of those who would deny democracy to millions of Americans in the name of Americanism. "There is no interference from local authorities," says The New World. There is no interference from national authorities either.

But "no interference" constitutes moral aid in and of itself. The Klan has the moral aid then of those who invested with the duty of protecting the interests, the "life, liberty and pursuit of happiness" of the people stand idly by while the hooded hoodlums make a mockery of our democratic institutions. Under such conditions the Klan will certainly spread. It is already extending its murder program.

"No interference" is a directive to go ahead. "No interference" is a plug for Klan recruitment. "No interference" is a form of agitation and of propaganda that is worth millions to those who promote lawlessness and incite to murder. "No interference" in America will equal the pact of "Non-intervention" which destroyed the democracy of Spain.

We are told "New Jerseyites are falling gullibly into nightshirt parade." In the August 19 issue of P.M. were these headlines of activities in the hills of Sussex: "Bund, Klan Celebrate Their 'Americanism'" — "They Unite First Time at Jersey Rally" — "Endorse Fifth Column Work, Call for Whispers Against War."

Does anyone believe that their whispering campaign will be confined to war alone? If so, note this headline in the same issue: "The Klan: Anti-War; Anti-Jew; Anti-Negro . . . But Pro-Nazi, Pro-Lindbergh."

That is proof of the organizing power of "no interference." What is the intention, what is the desire of the government that it does not interfere? Was the hysteria of war created to be used as a screen behind which to create lawless gangs, with which to terrorize law-abiding citizens who do not want war nor its hysteria?

If there is no verbal answer to this question, we submit to the Negro people the logical conclusions. If the Klan is not stopped by those who cry democracy, then the Klan is a weapon whereby and wherewith those elements seek to destroy democracy. This conclusion flows from the facts. This conclusion is strengthened as the ranks of the Klan are strengthened.

We are mindful of the grave responsibilities which devolve upon men and women who are endeavoring to prevent the outbreak of war in the western hemisphere.

They must seek peace at home who desire to end war abroad.

Peace is not brought beneath the cowardly hood of the K.K.K. Peace is born by heroes who do not seek to hide their identity. Peace is not furthered through the development of racial and religious hatreds. Peace is furthered by that spirit upon the banners of which is perched this slogan, "To each man and woman, regardless of race, nationality, creed or color we grant equality of opportunity."

The K.K.K. was born in days when black men and women fought to consolidate and to advance the freedom and democracy for which they had given so lavishly of their blood in the fires of the Civil war. It was the spirit of the Klan that martyred the immortal Lincoln. But the time has changed.

Slavery cannot be reintroduced into our country. Murder will not be tolerated as a means of promoting fascism and political disaster.

Of The Same Opinion Still

NOV 2 1940

Mr. Joseph P. Kamp, author of the booklet, "The Fifth Column in Washington," which has been so widely distributed in this campaign, obviously in an attempt to discredit the present administration, wrote *The News* a long letter denying, in substance, that he is pro-Fascist. The letter, published on this page yesterday, took up several of the statements made about Mr. Kamp in an article in *The New Republic* from which we quoted in our editorial of several days ago about his booklet.

A careful reader might have noticed that in most instances Mr. Kamp's replies to *The New Republic's* statements were not so much denials as they were attempts to explain them away or to put a different face on them.

For example, *The New Republic* identified Mr. Kamp as the editor of the "pro-Fascist magazine," *The Awakener*, in which he was associated with Harold Lord Varney and Lawrence Dennis, both widely recognized as Fascists or Fascist sympathizers. Mr. Dennis, in fact, is author of the book, *The Coming American Fascism*. It was not a magazine, says Mr. Kamp; it was a newspaper. So what? So it was a newspaper instead of a magazine—but we accept *The New Republic's* description of it as pro-Fascist as correct, right on. Does Mr. Kamp regard that as a denial? Or does he regard his statement that Harold Lord Varney and Lawrence Dennis joined with him in demanding a congressional investigation of Fascist movements as proof that these two eminent Fascists are not Fascists?

Much of the rest of Mr. Kamp's "denial" was in similar vein. For another example, *The New Republic* said he was a close friend of Edward Lodge Curran, who has been identified with Father Coughlin's activities. Mr. Kamp denies that he was a close friend of Curran's; but he admits that he knows him and that he and Curran both spoke from the same platform at a rally staged for Congressman Dies.

Again, Mr. Kamp denies *The New Republic's* statement that the National Labor Relations Board had condemned the distribution of his pamphlets. But he admits that an employer was cited by the NLRB as guilty of "an unfair labor practice" because "one employe gave another employe" a reprint put out by the Constitutional Educational League, of which Mr. Kamp is vice chairman and which publishes his booklet, "The Fifth Column in Washington." The reprint in question was of a speech made by Congressman Hoffman, of Michigan, Mr. Kamp says.

Anyway, *The New Republic* has as much justification for intimating that Mr. Kamp is pro-Fascist as Mr. Kamp has for saying, without offering any supporting evidence whatever in many instances, that some hundreds of government officials or employes are "fifth columnists," including four cabinet members.

NOV 2 1940

Mr. Kamp's quarrel, in any case, is with *The New Republic* so far as the question of whether or not he is pro-Fascist is concerned. For our part, we do not care whether he is Fascist in his sympathies or not. Mr. Kamp no doubt believes very sincerely that his ideas and notions constitute good "Americanism." We do not consider them good "Americanism" at all. Persons and organizations have often said and done evil and outrageous things under the pretext that they were "upholding Americanism." The notorious Ku Klux Klan, it will be remembered, regarded itself as "100 per cent American" and boasted of its "Americanism" while it was engaging in the most vicious kind of intolerance and violation of civil liberties.

Whether Mr. Kamp is pro-Fascist or not, our opinion of his booklet remains unchanged. If he does not want to be thought of as pro-Fascist, it is quite all right with us. All we want to say about him is that his booklet is an inexcusable thing, and it is unfortunate that we cannot have a presidential campaign without the use of such mud-slinging pamphlets as this.

Dies Finally Says He Opposes Klan

DEC 1 1940

GREENVILLE, S. C., Dec 12 — Congressman Martin Dies, chairman of the house committee on Un-American activities, has at last spoken out against the Ku Klux Klan.

Passing through this South Carolina city on his way to Washington, Congressman Dies spoke in no uncertain terms as to his stand on the Klan. In addition to ca'ling the Klan un-American, he also said that his committee was now conducting a thorough investigation of the order and in his home state of Texas he had always fought the Klan.

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Klan Chief Says Order Is Now A Friend Of Negro

DEC 15 1940

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Invading Washington for the purpose of lobbying for a bill sponsored by his organization, James Arnold Colescott, 43 year old veteranarian head of the Ku Klux Klan, called a press conference as soon as he was comfortably ensconced in his Hotel Washington quarters.

The wizard said the klan doesn't want to run the Negro out of the country, but it is positively opposed to segregation.

He warned, however, that Negroes must stop breathing hot communistic airs, or serious trouble will follow. Further, the wizard declared he didn't believe in the mixing of whites and blacks in training camps because "it won't work."

Mr. Colescott indicates that under the "new" klan, the Negro has become a ward of the klan and not an enemy. In the Atlanta district, klan headquarters churches are built from klan funds for Negroes. No needy Negro family goes hungry if the Klan knows about it.

"We definitely do not have a feud with Negroes, Catholics or Jews," he said, "the minority groups have as much right in this country, if they are all right."

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K. K. K. Boss, Without Sheet, Warns Negroes Against "Communist Airs"

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
DEC 21 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 19—The imperial wizard of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, minus his sheet and hood, trekked into Washington last week to do a little lobbying and to confer with leaders of the three branches in the District, but while here took time out to warn Negroes that if they don't stop breathing hot communsitic airs, serious trouble will follow.

The klansmen's boss—James A. Colescott, 42, of Indiana—is quoted as saying that the klan doesn't want to run the Negro out of this country, but is opposed to miscegenation. Neither is it against Catholic laymen, but is opposed to the Catholic hierarchy "which would like to see a union between the United States and the Roman Catholic Church.

Mr. Colescott, a Methodist, and a lieutenant in World War 1, also declared his opposition to mixing colored and white soldiers in training camps because "it won't work."

He lauded the klan as being the only patriotic society in the United States for twenty years. The program of the new klan was pictured as one of fairness. In connection with its program, "America for America,' 'Mr. Colescott said that he was appealing to minority foreign groups and Jews to "come out of the ghettos, shake off the old world and start practicing Americanism."

KU KLUX KLAN - 1940

GENERAL

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Klan To Stop Attacks On Negroes, Catholics, Jews

Imperial Wizard Says Communism and Bunds Will Draw K.K.K. Attention.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 29—Instead of being so vitally active against the Negro, Catholic and the Jew, the Ku Klux Klan will concentrate its activities against things un-American, asserted James A. Colescott of Atlanta, Ga., imperial wizard of the Klan, during a stay here last week.

Communism, Bunds and other foreign organizations will draw the Klan's direct fire in the future, leaving the Negro, Jew and Catholic out of the picture as far as the Kluxers are concerned.

Colescott said non-members no longer need be fearful when a fiery cross is burned, "that simply being a call for a meeting." Colescott said that at one time there were approximately 5,000,000 dues-paying Klansmen in the country and that Indiana had a membership of 185,000. He said that at the present time there are active charters in Indianapolis, Muncie, Kokomo, Ft. Wayne, Evansville and a score of smaller towns. The imperial wizard declined to elaborate as to what extent his organization would go in their war against Communism or on their stand against Negroes of the South who have felt the weight of Klan blows. He would not express his views nor the Klan's on a third term for President Roosevelt or a parole for D. C. Stevenson, former grand dragon of the Indiana Klan, who is now serving a life term in prison for murder. When questioned about politics, Colescott said, "We want no part of the old political machine such as existed in Indiana in 1924 and 1925."

Colescott formerly lived in Terre Haute, Ind., and became imperial wizard of the "Knights of the Sheet" last June for a four-year term. He left here for a brief stay in Terre Haute and back to headquarters in Atlanta.

Defends The Klan

To the Editor of the Post—Sir: One sees many newspaper articles condeming the Ku Klux Klan. I refer to the letter in the Post March 11 by one Jane Edens.

The Klan does not dignify such slanderous articles by answering them. As a member of this organization for many years, I know whereof I speak, and may I point out the fallicy or ignorance of Jane's remarks.

It is a well known fact that the Klan paraded twice in Washington and filled Pennsylvania avenue solidly from the Peace Momument to the Treasury with Klansmen in regalia. More than 4,000 of these were residents of Washington, D. C., and not one had his face covered with his visor. Yet one hears "They are afraid to show their faces." Surely the fallicy of these remarks are obvious.

Referring to the fact that the Klan is rapidly rebuilding its membership at present, Jane asks: "Does this new outbreak mean that civilization in America has reached such a low level that respectable citizens are willing to have men of questionable character and motives masquerade under the guise of Americanism?

No, Jane, it means that real Americans, of unquestionable character, see the approaching peril of un-American influence in their country, and are keeping faith with their forefathers in uniting in this great American organization to fulfill their sacred duty of preserving the heritage of this great democracy that their forefathers gave their lives to establish for them.

Regarding her reference to reading the Bible and Christ's teachings, the Bible is read and is always sacredly in use at every Klan meeting and Klansmen are taught to accept Christ as their criterion of character. Hate is not taught by the Klan, but the love and protection of home and family and fellow Klansmen.

A KLANSMAN.

Arlington, Va., March 13.

NEGROES ASK KLAN QUIZ

Group at Justice Department Contends Officials Are Lax

WASHINGTON, March 25 (UP)—Representatives of the National Negro Congress urged today that the Department of Justice investigate allegations of peonage and mob violence by the Ku Klux Klan in the South.

John P. Davis of the congress, William D. Patterson, representing the International Labor Defense and the Abolish Peonage Committee, and James A. Brier, a Negro school teacher from Greenville, S. C., who said he was driven from his home by klansmen, were in the delegation.

"This delegation would have preferred a conference with the Attorney General," a statement issued by the group said, "because we believe the matters have brought to the attention of the Department of Justice indicate a shocking dereliction of duty on the part of officials of that department."

Attorney General Robert H. Jackson is in Florida, and O. John Rogge, assistant attorney general in charge of the criminal division, heard the complaints.

Jackson Calls Bruce Reference To Black a Resort to Bigotry

Baltimore Mayor Defends Radcliffe Against Allusion to Ku Klux Case; Says Most Senators Upheld Justice

By Edward T. Folliard

Post Staff Writer

Baltimore, May 2.—The case of Hugo Black, one-time member of the Ku Klux Klan, now an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, bobbed up again in the Maryland primary fight tonight.

Mayor Howard W. Jackson accused Howard W. Bruce, candidate for the Democratic nomination for the United States Senate, of citing the Justice Black case to "arouse antagonism based on race and religious prejudices."

Bruce last night said that had he been in Senator George L. Radcliffe's place in 1937 he would have voted to hold up Black's confirmation in view of the Ku Klux Klan rumors. Radcliffe voted to confirm Black.

Mayor Jackson, in a radio speech tonight, said:

"It is to be regretted that Mr. Bruce has attempted to criticize Senator Radcliffe's votes on the confirmation of Mr. Justice Black to the Supreme Court of the United States.

"The repeated objections made by Mr. Bruce seem to involve an effort to arouse antagonism based on race and religious prejudices. There are several answers which can be made to Mr. Bruce.

"One of them is that if he will read the list of Senators who voted for Mr. Justice Black's confirmation, both in committee and on the floor of the Senate, he will find that Senator Radcliffe was in agreement with an overwhelming majority of the Senators, whose votes proved that neither race nor religion was allowed to play a part in the decision.

Cites His Record

"The second answer is that Senator Radcliffe, by his course of conduct in both public and private affairs all during his life, has proved that he is free from bigotry, from race and religious prejudices, and from intolerance of any kind. Anyone who knows Senator Radcliffe knows what I say is true. Mr. Bruce knows it himself."

Mayor Jackson, after praising Radcliffe's record and also tossing a bouquet or two in Bruce's direction, said that there was "no valid reason" for removing one from the Senate to make way for the other.

"The fact is," Mayor Jackson said, "that Mr. Bruce's ambition to be United States Senator is the sole reason why Senator Radcliffe is being opposed for renomination.

"If it were not for the circumstance that Mr. Bruce wants the office himself, Senator Radcliffe would be renominated practically by acclamation. Perhaps I am mistaken, but I really believe that if Mr. Bruce didn't happen to want the office for himself, he would at this very minute be supporting Senator Radcliffe."

The primary election takes place Monday, and today Bruce invaded hostile territory in quest of votes. He made a handshaking tour of Harford County, bailiwick of Senator Millard E. Tydings, who is backing Radcliffe.

Radcliffe on Shore

Senator Radcliffe meantime was on the Eastern Shore, visiting in Kent County and trying to undo the work of State Senate President Arthur Brice, who is conducting the Bruce campaign there.

The Bruce-Radcliffe fight has thoroughly overshadowed the battle going on for the Republican nomination for United States Senator. In this contest, the candidates are former Gov. Harry W. Nice and former Mayor William F. Broening.

Nice today assured visitors to his law office here that "after I've received the nomination, I'm going to be elected junior Senator of Maryland."

He predicted that Broening would not carry a single county. Looking ahead to the general election in November, he said he foresaw a swing of the pendulum that would put a Republican in the White House and himself in the Senate.

Is KKK Violence to Invade Your Home?--
Protest the Dies Raids

Is this country on the eve of another Palmer Raids hysteria, accompanied by mob violence against peaceful citizens?

A drunken, inflamed mob of about 50 persons illegally and violently entered a private home near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and kidnapped Anthony Minerich, Communist, while the latter was speaking to a small group of miners.

Under the incitement of Martin Dies and J. Edgar Hoover, mob rule is once again cloaking itself as "patriotism."

Martin Dies' agents yesterday afternoon invaded the offices of the Philadelphia International Workers Order and the Communist Party.

The excuse for this violent seizure was the preposterous pretext that a 1919 "sedition law" was being is at stake. This lawlessness must be stopped.

Wire or write your Congressmen demanding an immediate protest and investigation! Arrange for your organizations to voice protest.

Rush your protest to the Dies Committee, to Attorney General Jackson, and to President Roosevelt at the White House.

This mob spirit is finding fertile soil in those labor-hating, jingo circles which are just waiting for this green-light signal to swarm over the Bill of Rights with blackjacks in their hands.

Immediate protests from every decent progressive-minded American must answer these latest outrages. No trade union hall, no progressive group will be safe from similar attacks. The very existence of free speech somenow violated.

With this arbitrary weapon, there is not a private home, a club, or organization in America that will be safe from high-handed invasion and seizures!

Thus, Martin Dies and J. Edgar Hoover are setting the stage. Hoover's midnight raids in Detroit, and Dies' ravings and illegal seizures, are fomenting a Ku Klux Klan spirit.

A PERFECT MARRIAGE

The Ku Klux Klan and the German-American Bun are scheduled to hold a joint meeting at Andover, N. J next week on August 18, and the N.A.A.C.P. has protested to Congressman Dies, urging him to investigate both or ganizations.

We frankly do not see anything to investigate in thes two organizations and we believe that their getting togeth er is really a perfect marriage that will do more good than harm to our cause.

There is nothing to investigate in these outfits because everybody who has followed the news, knows that both stand for dictatorship, suppression of civil liberties, rampant race prejudice and nationwide discrimination against Negroes and Jews; both deal in torture and terror.

Remaining apart they might give the impression to the unobservant that there is some difference between them, but when they come together in joint meetings, all doubts of their singleness of purpose are removed.

Moreover, by this step the Klan, which is a fairly respectable organization in the minds (sic) of millions of Americans, will come to share part of the bitter hatred and persecution now enlavished upon the Hitlerian Bund as a result of its treasonable and disruptive policies, and both may be suppressed at one fell swoop.

In the present temper of the American people it is suicidal for any organization to tie up with an outfit allegedly having Nazi connections; consequently we are glad to see this Bund-Klan merger and to offer the newlyweds our worst wishes.

Birds Of A Feather

Once regarded as a purely Southern institution but long since disowned and revealed as the antithesis of all that is pure Southern Americanism, the Ku Klux Klan has finally degenerated to the point where it seeks refuge in the camp of the German-American Bund.

On Sunday the Eastern units of what remains of the $10-a-head nightshirt organization took over the Bund sector in New Jersey's Camp Nordlund and staged a mutual love-fest with the American Nazis. They called it an "Americanism" rally.

It was inevitable that the two should get together in the same nest, for their feathering is identical. Both are intolerant. Both make the inspiring of racial hatreds a fetish. Both make organized religion the butt of their attacks. For some months they have been carrying a propaganda torch for each other. Now they have gotten together and the country should be glad of it. It will be easier to find them when the time comes.

GROUP ADOPTS RESOLUTION

Ku Klux Klan, Black Legion, Other Subversive Units Condemned

Catholic educators and leaders in other walks of life demanded full citizenship rights for the Negro last week at an interracial conference held at Fordham University sponsored by the Catholic Interracial Council.

In a resolution adopted, the conference affirmed: "The long established tradition which has permitted the American Negro to be denied the exercise of his natural right and those guaranteed to all citizens in the Constitution has given rise to the subversive activities of the lynch mobs, the night-riders, the Black Legion and the Ku-Klux-Klan.

The resolution ended with the declaration: "As Catholics and as Americans, it is essential that we resist the growing epidemic of prejudice. Today, it is essential that we provide not only for national defense, but block the efforts of those who would divide and disrupt the unity of the American people."

Dr. Charles C. Tansill, professor of History in the Fordham Graduate School; the Rev. John LaFarge, associate editor of America; George K. Hunton editor of The Interracial Review; and George Streator, former college instructor and writer, participated in the conference.

Klansmen for Willkie

The Brooklyn unit of the Ku Klux Klan held a meeting in the Yale Republican Club on September 19. The occasion was the presentation of American and Christian flags to the Mayflower League, Klanswomen's auxiliary. (The Christian flag was white, with a red star against a blue upper right corner.)

Terrence Magowan, a renegade Catholic, handed out the usual violently anti-Catholic Klan spiel. The second speaker, the Rev. Dr. McNickle, added a new twist when he launched into a tirade against President Roosevelt. "Buy with Willkie—beg with Roosevelt," McNickle shouted, and the Klansmen cheered.

Though the meeting was held in a Republican club, there was no evidence of official Republican sponsorship. Certainly the Republicans didn't bargain for the collection of Klansmen, Bundsmen and Christian Mobilizers that crowded their hall.

FAILURE TO PROBE KLAN IS SCORED

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Jan. 11.—The failure of the House Commitee to Investigate un-American Activities to inquire into the rapid revival in the South of the Ku Klux Klan was roundly scored today by Edward E. Strong, Executive Secretary of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, before an emergency session of the National Council of the Congress which convened here during the Christmas holidays. The youth leaders who had assembled from Alabama, Georgia, Virginia, Louisiana, Washington, D. C., and Tennessee were told that "democracy in the United States is threatened by the Dies Committee which is supposed to be investigating un-American activities but which in reality is working to destroy the influence of those organizations which have worked unceasingly during the last few years to extend democracy to all people, including the American Negro."

Mr. Strong reported that 'the Dies Committee has failed to take action upon or even acknowledge a letter from the National Office of the Southern Negro Youth Congress asking for the investigation of the reviving Ku Klux Klan.

It has overlooked every organized group in the United States whose program is designed to maintain the sordid theories of Nordic superiority.

"The House Committee to investigate un-American activities, under the chairmanship of Congressman Martin Dies of Texas, is dangerously menacing the civil liberties of the American people and is working to create a psychology which will accept the entrance of the United States into the European war." "The Dies Committee," Mr. Strong further stated, "should be abolished and the coming session of the Congress should refuse to appropriate another cent for the continuation of the committee

Harvey, Friend of K K K, Sheds Tears for 'Front'

Public Fought Long Against Terrorists Before FBI Took Belated Action; Arrests of Leaders Called Small Beginning

By George Morris

Borough President George U. Harvey of Queens has the distinction of being the only public official, thus far, who has had the audacity to defend the "Christian Front" terrorists.

Adressing the Richmond Hill post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars last Wednesday, he protested against the high bail set for these plotters who were caught with an arsenal, bomb making equipment, and plans to assassinate people.

Harvey, who gained national notoriety as a fascist on his suggestion three years ago that police should be equipped with rubber hoses to subdue radicals," said at the meeting:

"They're Americans. Bail for them was set at $50,000. But look at Browder. He is at liberty in only $7,000 bail."

As far as is publicly known, no link between the Borough President and the "Christian" fronters has yet been discovered. But his indignation over their treatment recalled Mr. Harvey's own membership in the Ku Klux Klan, an organization with a similar program of race hatred and labor-baiting.

K.K.K. MEMBERSHIP

The Daily Worker of Sept. 16, 1936, exposed Harvey's membership in the American Krusaders, foreign-born section of the K.K.K., and carried a facsimile of his membership application bearing his own signature. Harvey was eligible for the foreign-born section of the hooded order, because he was born in North Ireland.

He was admitted into the Krusaders on Oct. 30, 1927, when he was alderman of New York City.

The Daily Worker then carried details of a court record in which a private detective, B. H. Fitzsimmons, filed an affidavit on how Harvey addressed Klan meetings to advance his political ambitions. Later in a court case others testified to Harvey's activity in the Klan and a handwriting expert declared the signature was genuine.

Harvey only made some half-hearted denials, but never took court action to disprove the charge, although it was raised a number of times.

The application signed by Harvey read:

"I, the undersigned, a foreign-born, true and loyal resident of the United States of America, being a white male, Protestant Gentile person of temperate habits, sound in mind and believer in the tenets of Christian religion, the maintenance of white supremacy and the principles of pure Americanism: I do most respectfully apply for membership in the American Krusaders through Kamp, No. 1, Realm of N.Y. at Jamaica."

The hollowness of the claim by the "Christian Front" that it is a defender of Catholicism is aptly revealed in the fact that Harvey, the man who signed the anti-Catholic pledge of the K.K.K., comes to the defense of the arrested Catholic terrorists.

With a Borough President to encourage them, is it any wonder that the plotters felt free to carry on their provocative race hatred and Jew-baiting rampage, and went as far as building up an arsenal?

The FBI raid was long overdue. And one of the greatest dangers now threatening New York is the idea that expert detective work found the 17, including the "two brains," and that the whole plot is smashed.

The "Christian front" movement has duped thousands into its fold for at least two years. Men such as Father E. Coughlin and Rev. Edward Lodge Curran, mentor of "The Tablet," rallied their support. Reactionaries such as Harvey come to their defense.

The committee of prominent clergymen and educators of Brooklyn, has addressed a letter to Archbishop Spellman several months ago requesting that he take a stand on the "Christian front," but has not received a reply.

TERROR IN BRONX

The work of the misnamed "Christian Front" gangsters isn't something that was suddenly sprung on New York. Last August 13, the seriousness of their activities were emphasized when a mob of over 700 of them injured several South Bronx policemen and marched on the Alexander Ave. station. This was the climax of their "Buy Christian" rally, which was marked by **the most vicious insults against Jews that had ever been heard in New York.**

To combat this and similar activity, Bronx citizens formed committees to uphold tolerance and democracy, with clergymen of many denominations, educators, and civic leaders upon them. There is the Interfaith Council; the Bronx Citizens Committee for Democracy; the South Bronx Tolerance Committee and local bodies in various neighborhoods where the "Christian Mobilizers" conducted their provocative meetings.

They came to public officials with pleas for investigations, and other action, but usually met with an explanation that they either have no authority to act or that there are no laws upon which such gangsters could be jailed.

In Brooklyn's Flatbush area the activities of the "Christian Front" store-window breakers became so provocative and violent, that last summer the people of the Kings Highway and 17th St. area rallied more than 10,000 to demand that anti-Jewish meetings on that corner be banned. The police eventually banned the meetings. In one case a church of one of the clergymen who did not approve of their activities, was stoned.

Things reached a point where the Mayor ordered an investigation of the activities of the "Christian Front," with Nathan Frankel, former labor secretary of the Mayor and Byrnes McDonald, another secretary, conducting it.

The Mayor acted after he received letters from all sections of the city, enough to fill two large folders, citing instances of vioaltions by the "Christian" fronters and demanding that he do something. The result of that investigation has not yet been made public. It is known, however, that the investigators complained of the non-cooperation of a number of magistrates. Many "Christian" fronters brought up on chiefly disorderly conduct charges, were dismissed. It is also known that there was considerable investigation in the police department in which the "Chirstian" Front had made special efforts to gain adherents.

In the light of all this the FBI arrest of the 17 is indeed a belated and small beginning.

Perhaps the most practical step to combat the scourge of anti-Semitism is the pending bill in the Council introduced by Councilman Walter R. Hart, Brooklyn Democrat, which makes it unlawful for persons to utter in public or publish remarks ridiculing and attacking persons because of their race, creed, color or nationality. The law aimed directly at the "Christian Front" would make anti-Semitism punishable as a misdemeanor by a prisor sentence and a fine

NIGHT RIDERS

Despite the best efforts of Southern journalism, this section of the country has not been delivered from one of its shames, the night riders.

When the Ku Klux Klan was forced to unmask through the cooperative efforts of Southern newspapers, everyone thought that the era of the night riders was ended. But it has not, for reports emanating from South Carolina show that the mysterious self appointed pseudo-cavaliers are active there. They have been active in other parts of the South in recent years. It might also be noted, for Northern reproduction, that vigilantes have been active over the Mason-Dixon line.

The Anniston Star has been among the newspapers which joined in the fight to destroy the Klan and Alabama has been well rid of the masked gang. There have been occasional cases of the depredations of night riders in the state, but they have been volunteer groups without organization.

Indications are that in South Carolina the night riders have been organized. Gov. T. D. Maybank has accepted the challenge by launching a campaign against them.

In the South today there is no place for the person of concealed identity who feels that it is his duty to patrol the community and state and regulate society. Under the cloak of the night rider many crimes have been committed. This lawless activity of men who apparently have nothing better to do is recognized by no state nor nation.

Gov. Maybank is following the course of other progressive Southern governors in seeking to rid his own state of the lawlessness which other states have disposed of.—Anniston Star.

BUY A BRIDGE, SKIP THE HOOD

Furtive Ku Klux organizers are trying nce more to peddle their cankered wares nd by so doing avoid the necessity of earning an honest living. The Klan has long been so thoroughly discredited in the United States that it never again can have any appreciable influence under that name, but there are woozy racketeers who yet believe there's gold in the abandoned hills.

The professional Ku Kluxer exploits the gullible by selling them an equity in the souls of other human beings. Aforetime they peddled equities in the souls of foreigners, Catholics, Jews and Negroes. Inevitable scandal followed this magnificent financial and political plunderbund and the Insivible Empire collapsed in disgrace. Now the Ku Klux racketeers profess to be interested only in putting down "isms"—Communism and Nazism and what-have-you. There isn't a person connected with the racket of sufficient intelligence to define the difference between Communism and Nazism. These babies are salesman, not savants.

Don't buy Ku Klux — buy some more shares in The Brooklyn Bridge, Inc.

If you buy what a Ku Klux peddler has to offer you are a bigger fool than he is—and that's no compliment to any living human being.

No Klucker He

JACKSONVILLE, FLA.—Reactionary Floridians are beginning to lose confidence in Hugo Black. They feel that he meant it when he denounced the Klan on taking his oath as a Supreme Court Justice. They present as evidence his writing of the decision that reversed the sentence in the case of four Broward County Negroes, sentenced to die in the electric chair. They can't conceive of a Klansman not wanting to see the "niggers" die. But in this they are in agreement with the liberals in Florida. They can't conceive of a Klansman writing that decision, either.

Anderson, S. C., Independent Trib.
February 27 1940

KU KLUX KLAN NEEDS AIRING

A true Southern patriot, if there ever was one, is MARK ETHRIDGE, former editor of the Macon (Ga.) *Telegraph* and now vice-president and general manager of the Louisville *Courier-Journal* and *Times*.

What he wrote recently concerning the activities of the Ku Klux Klan in South Carolina is of more than passing interest to those who believe in decent government and the square deal, and it is of especial interest to the South's textile workers.

Here is what Mr. ETHRIDGE says:

Ulric Bell, Washington correspondent for The Courier-Journal, had a story during the past week that the Department of Justice, through the F. B. I., or G-men, had been conducting an investigation in South Carolina, where activity centers at the moment. Mr. Bell said that the federal government has reports also of more than ordinary activity of the organization in Georgia and Florida.

In South Carolina, it has been pretty well developed that there is at least sufficiently strong connection between some employers and the Ku Klux Klan to warrant investigation by the federal government as to whether there is in effect a conspiracy to violate the Wagner act. To put it more bluntly, there is pretty good evidence that, whether they have financed the revival or not, some employers welcome it, particularly if the Klan is willing to list the C. I. O. along with Negroes, Jews, and Catholics as its particular enemies.

There has not been nearly enough airing of the revival of the Klan in Southern white newspapers, nor have white Southerners paid enough attention to it. The movement is one that may become serious in its implications and, moreover, bring shame to the decent-minded people of the South who believe in giving groups at least their fundamental rights.

The Ku Klux Klan is wrong under any circumstances. The original Klan started out upon purposes that were good enough but it was dissolved in disgrace. It never accomplished for the South any more than the intensification of the horrors of Reconstruction. Every time a misguided band whipped a Negro or another white, it only set the mold of vengeance in Washington all the harder. The original Klan was, in the end, nothing but a liability to the South.

The second Klan needs no analysis. It was largely a sucker-baiting organization. Those who put their money into it did not even have the pleasure of long indulging illusions of grandeur. It accomplished no good whatever. We still have to face and solve the problem of living decently with peoples of other races and of other creeds. There is no escape on earth from that problem. Extirpation and hatred never were an answer and never will be an answer.

The revival of the Klan can bring nothing but evil to the South and its revival as an opponent of labor is likely to bring bloodshed and travail. The South might as well recognize what the rest of the country has already recognized: Human beings have a right to help make their destiny, and collective bargaining is one of the ways to help make it. It is a right so basic that only one who is a feudalist at heart, fancying himself the kind master of the manor, or one who is at heart a dictator, demanding that people yield to his will with no wills of their own, can deny it as a right. The people of the South owe themselves a better civilization than one dominated either by feudalists or dictators.

The Ku Klux Klan has been low enough in its time, but not even it can afford to go to such depths as to allow itself to become the instrument of oppression of people whom it has professed, in the past, to protect.

Those are the words of a sensible Southerner talking common sense.

Greenville S. C. News
January 11, 1940

NEGRO DEMANDS DIES COMMITTEE INVESTIGATE KKK

Walter White Scores Texar For Failing To Include Such Organizations

JOHNSON LETTER CITED

The News Bureau, 1054 Press Bldg.
By Leased Wire.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—Having whipped through the House today the anti-lynching bill, Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, launched a movement to secure a congressional investigation of the activities of the Ku Klux Klan.

LETTER SENT BANKHEAD

In a letter to all members of Congress, White enclosed a copy of a letter he had written to Speaker William B. Bankhead complaining that the Dies committee to investigate un-American activities had failed to investigate the "Ku Klux Klan, the Black Legion, or the questioning of lynching and mob violence by organized groups."

Among the cases cited by the negro leader are the recent activities of the Klan in South Carolina.

"On July 17, 1939, we urged the committee to investigate the activities of the Klan in South Carolina," White wrote. "In this letter we pointed out that Fred V. Johnson, chief of the Klan in South Carolina had made a public statement that if qualified negroes in S. C. exercise their constitutional right to register and vote 'the Klan will ride again in South Carolina and in the nation.' It was pointed out that this open, public statement proposed not only violence and threats but also an utter disregard for the United States constitution. The committee was given the full name and address of Mr. Johnson.

KLAN NOT PROBED

Urging that this matter receive consideration when the House decides on the continuation of the committee, White concluded:

"We have carefully followed the proceedings of the committee since its inception and its has failed either to investigate or hold hearings on the Black Legion, the Ku Klux Klan, or mob violence by organized groups. The ignoring by the so-called Dies committee of the activities of these organizations has practically resulted in the giving of the "go" signal to them. It is our contention that these activities are as destructive, if not more so, as the attempts of nazi, communist and fascist propagandists which have engaged the attention of the committee for the investigation of un-American activities. Equally if not more destructive than other types of propaganda and activities are those who preach and practice racial bigotry gainst minority groups backed up by mob violence."

UNCLE SAM AND FLOGGERS

The Atlanta papers have been performing extremely well in exposing the abuses of the human body and the human spirit in outlying communities of Fulton county, abuses that have gone on for a dozen years but only lately have been brought into the open.

The Advertiser wishes to applaud its gallant contemporaries, The Constitution and The Journal, for the fine public service which they have rendered recently in this connection. It is not possible that such outrages can long continue in any community where an alert, aggressive and intelligent press is discharging its professional duties.

In a number of smaller communities outside of Atlanta many nasty flogging episodes have occurred. Organized bands, protected by oathbound policemen who callously disregard appeals to them for protection, are responsible. Recently a barber was beaten to death. His partner says that 12 years ago he too was flogged, but that he couldn't get anybody to do anything about it. He volunteered to testify before a grand jury and in an interview in a newspaper he charged that the K. K. K. is back of the outrages. There have been other strong intimations that the K. K. K. is back of all of these gang assaults upon defenseless — though not necessarily innocent — human beings. Most of the victims of course, this being the Deep South, are Negroes, but many are white and probably of old Revolutionary stock.

Solicitor-General John A. Boykin has requested the Fulton County Commission to post rewards for information "after county law enforcement agencies had failed to make an arrest."

But what is of special significance and what should be most impressive to the body-beaters is a charge to the federal grand jury by Judge Marvin Underwood, of the United States district court (a kinsman of the late Senator Oscar Underwood of Alabama who lost a presidential nomination because of his gallant assaults upon Ku Kluxism). Judge Underwood charged that the floggings reported to him were in violation of "civil rights" and so constitute a federal offense.

Says The Atlanta Journal's news report as of Monday:

> Judge Underwood did not refer specifically to floggings, but cited two federal statutes making federal offenses of what he termed the "apparent recurrence of group outrages and violations of civil rights in this section of the country."
>
> These are matters of such great importance and widespread interest that the federal as well as the state government, is deeply concerned," the judge asserted.
>
> "The evil of such conduct is not merely cola, but is national in its unwholesome effect and, if tolerated and allowed to grow, not only brings peril and disgrace to the particular community suffering it, but endangers the orderly processes of government everywhere."
>
> Judge Underwood continued:
>
> "It is gratifying to note the spontaneous outburst of public indignation at recent violations of civil rights and the determination to punish those who may be found guilty of them. It is well that we should bear constantly in mind that, as stated by the Supreme Court, 'The rights and liberties of people accused of crime cannot be entrusted to secret inquisitorial processes.'"
>
> The two federal laws cited by Judge Underwood are Paragraphs 51 and 52 from the 18th volume of the United States Code, as follows:
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> "If two or more persons conspire to injure, oppress, threaten, or intimidate any citizen in the free exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege secured to him by the constitution or laws of the United States, or because of his having so exercised the same, or if two or more persons go in disguise on the highway, or on the premises of another, with intent to prevent or hinder his free exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege so secured, they shall be guilty of a federal offense.
>
> "Whoever, under color of any law . . . subjects . . . any inhabitant of any state . . . to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities secured or protected by the constitution and laws of the United States, or to different punishments, pains or penalties, on account of such inhabitant being an alien, or by reason of his color, or race, than are prescribed fo rthe punishment of citizens . . . shall be guilty of a federal offense."

Floggings In Georgia

Again there come reports of floggings in Georgia, where last week one man was flogged to death. The victim, an East Point barber, was beaten with a four-foot leather lash with braided strips—described as "a medieval torture instrument ingeniously contrived to produce extreme suffering with each blow." This lash was found near the secluded spot where the body, reported to have been a mass of welts was discovered.

The investigation of this brutal murder brought out accounts of a series of night-rider floggings in the vicinity of Atlanta, of which East Point is a suburb. The owner of a barber shop where the slain man was once employed told the authorities that floggings have been regular occurrences in that area for the last 12 years. This man was flogged himself once, and he said he believed his assailants were policemen and Ku Klux Klansmen.

A federal grand jury has been asked, in a charge by Judge E. Marvin Underwood to investigate the series of floggings. Judge Underwood did not refer specifically to floggings, but spoke of the "apparent recurrence of group outrages and violations of civil rights in this section of the country." He informed the grand jury that such acts of mob violence are federal offenses under two statutes which he cited.

The state authorities, of course, are conducting an investigation. Judge Underwood is right, however, in saying that "these are matters of such great importance and widespread interest that the federal as well as the state government is deeply concerned."

Judge Underwood put his finger on an aspect of mob violence which needs to be emphasized in saying, "The evil of such conduct is not merely local, but is national in its unwholesome effect, and if tolerated and allowed to grow not only brings peril and disgrace to the particular community suffering it, but endangers the orderly processes of government everywhere."

In other words, brutality breeds brutality, and mob violence feeds upon mob violence. Where such acts are tolerated, they will increase, and then they will spread to other communities. The growth and spread can be prevented, however, by a strong public opinion against mob violence in any form, and by prompt and stern action by agencies of the law in dealing with such offenses.

Reports of instances of the flogging evil have been comintg out of Georgia intermittently for years. The great majority of Georgians certainly have no sympathy with this sort of thing, but evidently they have been too patient with the evil. If public opinion had been as insistent on putting it down as it should be, and if the authorities had been as alert and responsive as they ought to be, Georgia could have put a stop to these floggings long since. Alabamians, speaking from experience, can assure Georgians that floggings can be stopped if the public and the authorities show the will to stop them.

Because of Masks

The events and the piecemeal revelations of the recent past again must impress the people of Atlanta, of Fulton county and of Georgia with the need for legislation barring the mask from the streets and roadways of the state.

Whether or not Ku Klux Klan participation in the south Fulton floggings is ever proved, there remains the inescapable fact of its indirect complicity in the crimes. Self-admittedly it has laid the groundwork for the lawless seizure of countless persons and for their sadistic beatings. Whether the Klan—or Klansmen—participated, it cannot escape responsibility for a condition that permits the operation of masked hoodlums in open defiance of the law. Yet the Klan has in the past refused to unmask. The reasons given have been varied and, despite repeated provocation, city councils and the legislature have avoided legislating these masks from the streets.

They can no longer evade their responsibility.

It will be beside the point to argue, as it has been argued, in the past, that legislation of this type would interfere with the celebration of Halloween, or that it might mitigate against legitimate advertising stunts. This will be a small price to pay for the banishment of masked bands from open violation of the rights of free citizens on the streets and roads of Georgia. And the threat inherent in the "parades" of the south Fulton area—if that was all involved in the operations of the Klan—is in itself a violation of the civil rights of the persons so "warned".

The Klan itself should now be willing to unmask. If it is not, then it must be unmasked —when on the public roads—by civil authority. If it wishes to mask itself, and to act as a secret order, which it is, then it should act as other secret orders in keeping its secrets to the meeting hall and baring its face to the public gaze when outside that hall. Otherwise it continues to be the vehicle, if not the participant, in such atrocities as have been uncovered

by the death of Ike Gaston—who, unimportant in life, has become a symbol in death.

His very unimportance should make every citizen more determined that these persons be protected against bigoted might and vigilante justice. Unless this is done, it will not be long before all men become very unimportant and hooded gangs will have put Hitler and his bloody, but unmasked, minions to shame.

How long will Georgia continue to tolerate the masks and the whips? One cannot be separated from the other. How long will men delude themselves into thinking they can mask their souls before God when they undertake to judge their brothers and to punish in the night with bestiality unrivalled even in Germany?

This Is Significant

A white man went to the office of the United States district court clerk to tell that he had been warned to "leave town" not later than Saturday, a warning that came after the Ku Klux Klan had paraded before his home.

The man declared he was afraid to make his complaint and appeal for protection to Fulton county officials and he was, therefore, sent to the FBI.

A deputy sheriff of Fulton county has been identified as one among an outlaw gang which flogged a citizen of Fulton county. Other deputies have been named as Klansmen.

Officials of the Klan have denied responsibility for the floggings and have stated that any member of their order proven guilty of this crime will be banished from membership.

It may never be possible to present proof making the Ku Klux Klan legally responsible for these whipping outrages. Yet, there can be no doubt in the mind of any reasoning person that the Klan practice of appearing masked in public provides the condition which makes mob outrage possible. It is impossible to distinguish, when robes and hoods are worn, between law-abiding citizens who are merely members of a secret order, and hoodlums who are in the habit of defying the law and making the justice of American courts a mockery.

The Klan, admittedly, makes a practice of parading before the homes of those who, it has decided, are not "leading the right kind of lives." Under what divine dispensation they assume the right of judgment upon fellow citizens has not been disclosed.

But, when such "warning parades" are staged by masked men, when fiery crosses are planted before their victims' homes by these hooded unknowns and when men, white or colored, are warned to leave town within a given number of days, it is but a short step to resort to physical violence in event the warning is ignored.

There is much that is whispered, much that is general knowledge, about the Klan and its activities that has not as yet been brought out in any official inquiry. Much of this is withheld because those with the information are afraid of reprisal if they appear as witnesses.

Where there is such fear, there must be reason for it.

The man who says he received a warning to "leave town" last Wednesday, since the investigation began, admitted he did not dare tell his story to county officials, hence he appealed to a representative of the United States court for protection.

There is utmost significance in that fear. There is, also, an indictment of the local law enforcement authorities which carries blackest reproach to all Fulton county. It is an indictment which must be answered if this county is to regain its self-respect as a community of law-abiding citizens and a place fit to enjoy the blessings of freedom in this democracy.

Reveal How Klan Flogged Victims

Daily World 3-31-40

Atlanta, Ga.

Fulton county authorities Saturday revealed methods of operation of the Ku Klux Klan flogging gang. This information followed the 10 arrests on indictments returned Friday by the grand jury.

It was learned from a reliable source that never less than seven men, and often as many as 12 took part in individual whippings. None of the floggers was masked, but shielded their faces and were very careful in most cases to pull the victims' hats over their eyes.

Fake warrants of arrests, handcuffs and badges were reported used in drawing the victims from their homes. Two or three leather straps were used by members of the band to flog each victim. The victims' flesh was always exposed and they were forced to bend over during the floggings.

In the case of P. S. Toney, white, it was revealed that the floggers took him to the East Point city dump and then beat him with straps. Toney was accused of "being active in the CIO," it was learned.

Three white men, Henry Cawthon, Dan Edison and Herb Edison indicted and arrested on flogging charges, were released in $10,000 bail.

The flog-death of a white man Ike Gaston, caused county officials to investigate. Since beginning of the probe, seveal white perons revealed that they had been victims of whipping gangs.

There has not been any information released concerning colored persons who were flogged by bands of white men near East Point.

Solicitor General John Boykin and Assistant Solicitor Daniel Duke told reporters Saturday the investigation is far from finished. Investigators are reported to have obtained three confessions from alleged floggers.

Several witnesses were listed as saying floggers whipped their victims as long as three and a half hours at a time at the East Point city dump.

KLAN UNMASKING DECREED AS LASH TRIAL IS STARTED

Peep-Holed White Hood Banned in Imperial Wizard's Edicts

4-18-40

(The Associated Press)

Atlanta, April 17.—National officers of the Ku Klux Klan decreed unmasking for the hooded order today while trial of 17 men in connection with the Georgia flogging terrorism began here.

Imperial Wizard James A. Colescott, after a five-day parley with the imperial kloncilium (directorate), issued edicts banning the peep-holed white hood from klan regalia, restricting parades and burning of the "fiery cross," klan emblem.

4-18-40

'Boss of Wrecking Crew'

Cauthon, red-haired filling station operator brought to trial on a misdemeanor charge of assault and battery, was described in early testimony as the "boss of the wrecking crew" in a long series of floggings.

W. C. Bishop testified that he made the whip with which he said Cauthon flogged at least two of 16 persons whipped in and near suburban East Point. Bishop admitted accompanying Cauthon on night-riding expeditions and said the three-inch wide whip "was kept at the klan hall" when not in use.

He told the jury that after one flogging expedition on which he did not go, Cauthon told him "they had to stop at a creek and wash the blood off the whip."

Attorney Reuben Garland, representing Cauthon, charged Bishop's testimony against the defendant should be ruled out on grounds that it was prompted "by the fear that Bishop is about to be indicted for Gaston's death."

No Longer Klan Members

Garland said forthcoming evidence would show Cauthon was no longer a member of the East Point klan and that while a member he was opposed to use of hood in regalia.

Almost simultaneously with Colescott's announcement the Fulton county superior court opened trial of Henry Cauthon, first of 17 members and former members of a suburban klan unit to face a jury after several weeks' grand jury investigation precipitated by the flogging death of Isaas Gaston, a barber.

Involved in Whipping of 16

Cauthon, red-haired oil truck driver, was charged with assault and battery, a misdemeanor, in connection with the nonfatal whippings of 16 persons.

Colescott denied the klan edicts were prompted by the flog investigations and asserted the current trial had "nothing whatever to do with it."

Officials hoped removal of masks would "discourage nonmembers from using klan robes to cover criminal actions—as has been done in many instances."

The new show of faces does not mean there will be a change in the klan policy of secrecy concerning membership lists, Colescott added.

Under the edicts, a klansman may not appear "in public or in private with his face hidden by a mask." Violation is "punishable by banishment."

Limit Klan Regalia Parades

Klan regalia parades were limited to those with specific permission from high klan officers and local authorities. Cross burning will require permission of klan officers and owner of any private property on which a cross might be lighted.

Colescott asserted the only action concerning the flog probe here taken by the kloncilium was to "commend me for my efforts to co-operate with the authorities in bringing to justice those responsible for the floggings."

The imperial wizard appeared before the grand jury several times with records of the East Point, Ga., klan unit involved.

At a press conference today, the wizard said suspension of the unit was under consideration, but action would depend on evidence at the trials.

Cross Burning Also Is Limited In Colescott's Sweeping Edict

All Hoods With Visors Must Be Destroyed; Costume Otherwise Is Unchanged; Permission Must Be Obtained for Parades in Future.

Constitution 4-18-40
Atlanta, Ga.

Knights of the Ku Klux Klan throughout the United States were ordered to unmask yesterday by Imperial Wizard J. A. Colescott in a sweeping edict issued at the close of the annual meeting of the Klan's imperial kloncilium—or directorate—in Atlanta.

A second edict limited the occasions for burning the fiery cross, official emblem of the Klan, by setting down specific conditions under which this ceremony may be staged.

This action, Colescott said, was taken after he had conferred with Klan leaders and members in at least a third of the states. He denied that intensive investigation into flogging activities in which East Point Klansmen are charged with participation was responsible for the edicts.

Robe Unchanged.

The order abolishing the mask does not do away with the costume of the Klan, but means that henceforth the helmet will have no visor to hide the face of the wearer.

The helmet, Colescott said, shall be collapsible, with a flap attached to the brim at the back, and when worn shall be of a cone shape, with the flap covering the back of the neck, but without a front flap or visor.

He ordered that the official costume of the Klan shall be awhite robe of light-weight cotton cloth, made with cape of the same material, and of proper length, with white girdle around the waist, and insignia of the order worn on the left breast.

The helmet. which may be worn with the official costume, shall be made of the same material as the robe, and reinforced with buckram, he said.

Colescott further proclaimed that no Klansman, or group of Klansmen, when wearing the official costume, shall appear in any public place to participate in any parade, demonstration or for any other purpose, unless permission for such appearance shall have been obtained from the grand dragon in organized realms, or the imperial wizard in unorganized realms, together with permission from the proper public authorities in whose jurisdiction such appearances occur.

The edict affecting the Fiery Cross provided for the following:

"No Klansman shall burn, or cause to be burned, in public, a fiery cross, unless official permission shall first have been obtained from the grand dragon in organized realms, or the imperial wizard in unorganized realms, and not then until permission from the owner of the private property on which the cross is to be burned has also been obtained."

Violation of any part of either of these edicts shall constitute a major offense punishable by banishment, Colescott said.

Both of the edicts become effective immediately, the imperial wizard explained. They were approved unanimously by the kloncilium, or national board of directors, although the wizard said he has the power to issue them without this approval. Between 4,500,000 and 5,000,000 klansmen will be affected, he said.

Colescott made the edicts public at a press conference, following the close of the annual session of the kloncilium.

"I am immediately notifying every klan leader in the nation to collect and destroy any helmet either in the klavern or in the possession of any klansman, which may bear a mark or visor, in order that there shall be no possibility of any klansman appearing in public or private with his face hidden by a mask," he asserted.

Colescott said he believed the new laws would meet with the approval of members of the organization in every part of the country.

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He explained there was a time when he favored the mask, but added that day had passed. He said he wrote letters to leaders of the organization the latter part of last year, pointing out that the majority of klansmen favored removal of the mask. 4-18-40

"Is Sacred Symbol."

"Since I became imperial wizard in June of last year, I have traveled throughout at least a third of the states in the nation, conferring with klan leaders and visiting local klans in order that I might acquaint myself with the various conditions existing in every section of the country so as to be of greater service to my organizatoin," he said.

Referring to his fiery cross edict, the wizard explained the fiery cross is "a sacred symbol, emblematic of the cross upon which Christ, the klansman's criterion of character, was crucified."

"Under the fiery cross every klansman assumes his most solemn obligation and consecrates himself to a life of service and sacrifice for the right," he continued. "For this reason the fiery cross may be used only as I have outlined in this edict."

He added that the robe of the klan was distinctive and contained deep significance for a klansman.

Colescott said no date had been set for another klan convocation, or general meeting of members

Active Part In Whippings Laid To 'Crew Boss'

Floyd Lee Pleads Fear of Incrimination When Questioned.

By WILLARD COPE.

Constitution 4-18-40
Atlanta, Ga.

Testimony linking Henry Cauthon, filling station owner, with flogging operations of the East Point Ku Klux Klan was ordered to a jury and Judge Hugh M. Dorsey in Fulton superior court yesterday as the man whom Solicitor General John A. Boykin called the "wrecking crew boss," went on trial on 16 charges of assault and battery. At 4:45 o'clock court adjourned, to be resumed at 9 o'clock this morning.

An admitted participant, W. C. Bishop, who lives in the Gate City Mills settlement in the East Point region, and who admitted making one whip, testified that Cauthon took a part in lashing victims with a heavy whip; that he told Bishop, "I've been made chief of the wrecking crew;" that he directed the kidnaping of a labor organizer at Scottdale, and served as the captain in disposing his forces in the seizure of an East Point Negro whom he subsequently helped flog.

Just before Bishop's lengthy occupancy of the witness stand, another alleged flogger, Floyd Lee, East Point fertilizer works employe who, Bishop said, preceded Cauthon as head of the "crew", took refuge within his constitutional rights and refused to testify to questions concerning 16 floggings. Lee was presented as a state's witness and his testimony had been expected to aid the prosecution. He weariedly repeated to Judge Dorsey as questions were asked:

"That might incriminate me and I can't answer."

Both Lee and Bishop were warned of their right to decline answers by John Hudson, an attorney, over whose status as their representative there was a brief argument between Solicitor General John A. Boykin, prosecuting attorney, and Reuben Garland, chief of the defense counsel. It was brought out that Hudson was associated with H. A. Allen, counsel for both.

Bishop was assailed by Garland as one of the slayers of Ike Gaston, who was beaten to death near Ben Hill March 7, and accused him of testifying to assure clemency through the prosecution. He handed a heavy whip to the tall, gangling, broad shouldered witness, and demanded: 4-18-40

"When was the last time you had in your hands this whip that killed Ike Gaston?"

"I didn't have anything to do with Gaston's death," returned Bishop.

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"You had a fight with him over a dog, didn't you?"

"No."

"You can't sleep at night because you're afraid you're going to be indicted for killing Gaston."

"That is not true. I did not kill Ike Gaston."

Whip Bloody.

A high point in Bishop's testimony came when he said Cauthon told him that, after the beating of a man named Russ Elder, of Riverdale, not previously mentioned in the probe, the whip was so bloody and soiled it was necessary to wash it in a spring.

Upon being pressed by Boykin, who at times showed the witness a statement he previously had signed, Bishop connected Cauthon with the kidnaping and flogging of P. S. Toney, the labor organizer in the Scottdale case, who was taken to the East Point city dump; with the seizure and beating of a negro, George Grooms, who was dragged from his bed; beating of Louis H. Brown, a tenant of Cauthon's sister, and with the flogging of G. W. Wright, through a remark he said he overheard Cauthon make: "We got results in the Wright case—he's moved now."

Others Mentioned

Among other persons taking part in various floggings, Bishop swore, were Dan Eidson, Floyd Lee, Raymond (Slim) Bryan, Walter Forster, an East Point policeman; Earl Vickery, now dead, George Cameron and W. T. Walton.

Vickery thrust his revolver into the negro Grooms' mouth, Bishop testified, saying "they abused him up some over his head," as well. Eidson, he declared, "kicked Grooms in the face to get him up off the ground" after he had been whipped.

Boykin told the jury the state would establish Cauthon was "the

manager, the directing head, the boss, the chief, of the wrecking crew" and "used his own car and volunteered the use of his car" in conducting floggings.

"His was the voice that gave the command to start beating," declared the prosecutor, "and the command to stop when he seemed to be satisfied."

He described the types of flogging instruments used and exhibited to the jury two heavy leather whips with handles—one of them the gruesome weapon with which Ike Gaston, East Point barber, was beaten to death March 7.

Methods Described.

"We will show that men were kidnaped and carried far distances from their homes by men who pretended to be officers of the law," asserted the solicitor general. "The victims were told they had the wrong tags on their automobiles, that there had been an accident, or that the invaders had a warrant. Badges, either faked or real, were exhibited—all in getting the victims away from their homes.

"There in remote places they were beaten to the extent of absolute brutality. We will show one case in which a man couldn't walk or crawl afterward, and a fellow victim, who finally managed to stagger away, was forced to rescue him.

"We will exhibit cases of injuries which the victims never will overcome in their natural lives, bruises, scars, solid masses of blue discolored spots. We will show that the intruments with which these men were beaten were kept ready at hand, for use at any time when wanted. We will show this defendant applied for and was proclaimed chief of the group that thus pronounced judgment on and punished their fellow men.

"Enforced Own Decree."

If the report came that somebody had been a little bit derelict in some way at home, or even took a little drink, this man would get his crowd together and they would go out to enforce their own decree."

The defense, as outlined to the jury by Attorney Reuben Garland, was a complete denial of Cauthon's connection with or knowledge of the floggings, that he worked hard at his garage," often until dawn broke," because of his devotion to his business and his family, and that his character was excellent, as would be established by 200 witnesses summoned.

"This defendant is a young man, with four children at home to care for," said Garland, as Cauthon and his young and pretty wife listened intently. "He is in business and works extremely hard. He kept an automobile, first for his own use when he had time to use it, but he lent it to customers when they were having their machines fixed at his garage.

"Didn't Wear Mask."

"He is a former klan member, as the state will show, but he is not now a member. We will show that he was one klan member at least who did not wear a mask. When there was a parade he rode in it with his face plainly visible to all."

Garland stressed the long periods over which Cauthon and other witnesses summoned by the grand jury investigating floggings were kept in waiting rooms and exhibited for identification. The attorney renewed the feud which had developed between him and Daniel Duke, assistant solicitor general, during the probe, by referring several times to Duke as having put pressure on defendants.

"Time after time Duke would bring witnesses out and point to Cauthon," declared the attorney. 'On one occasion he called him a blasphemous epithet.' "Naturally," continued Garland, "witnesses would find it easy to identify a man in such circumstances."

He charged that Cauthon was held from 10 o'clock in the morning to 9 o'clock at night March 21, with 53 other witnesses, and that Cauthon's summons was merely a "John Doe" subpoena. His voice grew vehement and the court admonished gently, "This is no time for a speech."

"I'm just outlining," Garland replied.

The first witness, W. L. Allen, 63, a wood cutter, told of being lashed 25 times by three or four men last May 22 or 23. His old Negro helper, Olin Boddy, who lived in an unfinished room on the premises, was beaten about 30 minutes earlier.

Allen, who trembled visibly and was very pale, bent over to exhibit to the jury the position he was forced to assume while flogger after flogger beat him, after his overalls had been removed, leaving only thin underwear.

His aged mother, gravely ill, was unconscious when the band came to his home on Flat Shoals road near Union City. Allen said and took first the Negro and then himself away.

Naively, the witness observed that the attackers beat him "until they give out." One of them then said to him, by way of explaining the attack:

"I guess you come from south Georgia, I guess you'll leave Niggers alone now."

When the defense objected to Allen's recital, Boykin declared he would prove by other witnesses that Cauthon was present. Judge Dorsey ruled the evidence admissible under those conditions.

Wife Testifies.

Allen's white-haired wife testified she recognized Charlie Watts, under indictment, as one of her husband's floggers, and that W. W. Scarborough, exalted cyclops of the East Point Klan, was among those who came to their Oakland City home sometime before and insisted "a Negro was living" in their house and must be moved. She was unable to place Scarborough at the actual beating.

"I begged them hard not to beat my husband when they were taking him out," the aged woman declared, "and Mr. Watts told me: 'If you don't like it, we'll take you out, too.' My husband hadn't done anything wrong. We'd had that Negro working for us for years, and he did not sleep in the house. I tried to tell them that. I was so scared I couldn't tell whether there was a hundred of them or not."

Repeatedly, Lee, pale and nervous, was taken over the whole series of incidents charged against Cauthon. Boykin pressed him with name after name of victims, with the dates of floggings, with questions as to his presence on those dates. Twice Lee answered "No" when asked if he knew specific victims, Doc F. Floyd and Hugh Brannen, but otherwise, after pauses apparently to recall, he refused to answer.

Automobiles alleged by Bishop to have been used in various expeditions of the "crew" were a yellow Oldsmobile owned by Cauthon, "a Plymouth or maybe a Dodge owned by Eidson," "a Ford or maybe a Hupmobile owned by Bryan" and another vehicle described only as belonging to Cauthon's brother, Dave, who sat beside him at the defense table.

A shiver ran through the crowd as Bishop told of the seizure of Bert Harris, at the Whittier Mills, near Chattahoochee:

"Harris was sitting in the back seat between me and Walton, and he said: 'Bishop, I don't know what makes this seat so hot.'"

State's witnesses were kept in a room back of the courtroom while defense witnesses were sent to the eighth floor to prevent clashing—a step never previously taken, attaches said.

At the outset Garland was able to knockout one count of the 17-count indictment involving the flogging of J. T. Fuqua on November 19, 1937, because of a mistake in typing the date. Remaining counts allege Cauthon's beating with "a heavy leather strap" the following persons on the dates shown: The Rev. Grady Kent Hugh Brannen, Doc F. Floyd and W. L. Allen, all on May 23, 1939; Levi Conkle and O. N. Conkle, September 15, 1939; L. G. Rainwater, November 4, 1938; George Grooms, September 6, 1938; James W. Wilkes, August 18, 1938; P. S. Toney, August 1, 1938; G. W. Wright, June 22, 1938; W. L. Pennington, June 10, 1938; Bert Harris, March 21, 1938; Joe Ottwell, March 14, 1938; T. E. Young, July 27, 1937, and W. R. Jackson, January 27, 1937.

Accused Klan Flogger Sobs At Trial's End

'I've Been Framed,' Says Atlantan, Begging For His Freedom

Adventures

4-25-40

ATLANTA, April 24.—(AP)—Facing a possible nine years in prison as a Ku Klux Klan flogger, red-haired Henry Cawthon cried out to a jury today "I've been framed" and pleaded that he be allowed to "go home to my loved ones."

Then he shuffled back to his chair buried his face on his wife's shoulder and soon sobs were shaking the broad shoulders of this man the State accuses of laying the lash across the bared backs of nine victims of night riding terrorists in suburban East Point.

The defense closed its case with the prisoner's unsworn statement—permissible under Georgia law—denying any connection with a long series of floggings brought to a climax by the fatal beating of a heavy-drinking barber.

Arguments To Start

Tomorrow morning will be devoted to arguments and then the jurors must decide on the nine assault and battery charges against the 30-year-old alleged chief of the Klan's East Point "wrecking crew."

Each charge is a misdemeanor and each carries a possible maximum penalty of one year in prison.

Repeatedly named by State witnesses last week as the ruthless swinger of a cruel strap, Cawthon had difficulty controlling himself while he told the jury of his impoverished boyhood, his lack of education, his long life of hard work.

He specifically charged that at least two of the State's key witnesses lied deliberately when they told of accompanying him on flogging expeditions, said lash victims were mistaken in their identification.

Refers To Wife

He referred frequently to his wife, who has been at his side throughout the week-old trial, and his four children, and begged the jury to let him "return to them, a free man."

The awkwardly worded plea of the East Point filling station operator—first of 16 accused floggers to be tried—provided the dramatic highlight in a day devoted largely to defense efforts to discredit State witnesses.

The present nine charges against Cawthon, long a member of the now suspended East Point Klan, were 17 when the trial opened. The State dropped one at the outset and the defense obtained dismissal of seven others.

This trial, highlighted by victims' accounts of floggers' sadistic cruelty, is first court fruit of inquiries started a few weeks ago when the battered body of Isaac Gaston was found in a lonely farm field. No indictment have been returned in that case.

Ike Gaston

CIO MAN TELLS HIS STORY—P. S. Toney, Scottdale mill worker and CIO adherent relates to Solicitor General John A. Boykin (center) and Assistant Solicitor Dan Duke (right), how he was kidnaped, taken to East Point and flogged August 1, 1938. Toney was a principal witness at yesterday's sessions of the Henry Cauthon flogging trial.

Constitution Staff Photo—Bill Wil

Bishop Clashes With Garland On Testimony

Witness Says 'I Believe You're Rascal That Came to My House.'

W. C. Bishop, the state's witness of the Monday session of the flogging trial, was recalled when yesterday's session started. He was severely cross-examined by Attorney Reuben Garland, who frequently was admonished by Judge Dorsey and threatened with progressive fines.

Bishop became heated as Garland pressed him closely, attempting to bring out inconsistencies of testimony, and suddenly burst out to the attorney:

"I believe you're the rascal that came to my house one night about 12 o'clock with a rag on your face. I believe you are."

Witness Warned.

Garland smiled, and the court warned the witness against such actions. Garland returned to his questioning:

"So you think I look like some man that came to your house with some sort of a rag, do you?"

"I wouldn't put it past you. You might scare Mr. Duke (Assistant Solicitor General Daniel Duke) but you can't scare old man Bishop."

Garland drew from Bishop admission that the witness had told Duke he suspected four men in the slaying of Ike Gaston, March 7. The names testified to in this connection were listed as "Richard Quinn," "Walter Forster," "Holcomb" and "Yarbrough."

Frequent Conferences.

Bishop said he based his suspicion on the frequent conferences the four held before Gaston was flogged to death and because "Quinn" came to the Oakland City Klan meeting for "Forster" on the night Gaston was taken to his death.

Previously, Bishop swore, W. W. Scarborough, the East Point Klan exalted cyclops, made the alleged remark upon seeing Gaston working East Point streets on a drunkenness sentence:

"The city of East Point is feeding Gaston and the Klan is feeding his family. When Ike gets out I think I'll fix him a meal."

'Hard to Hold'

Bishop admitted being one of party that captured and flogged man named Wesley, of Taylor avenue, East Point, who later committed suicide. Others with him in Floyd Lee's automobile, he testified, were Lee, Raymond Brooks and Raymond Bryan.

The witness denied actually beating Wesley, who later that night was arrested by East Point police on a public indecency charge, but said "he was hard to hold." It was Bishop's strap that was used, however, he admitted.

Bishop testified that the automobile of Scarborough was used in the carrying off and beating of a man identified only as Louis Brown, and that Scarborough was one of the party, which, the witness swore, included himself, Cauthon, George Cameron, and Trimble. Bishop admitted he held Brown while he was flogged and could not say if Cauthon or Scarborough used the whip.

In the Wesley case, Bishop said he, Lee, Raymond Brooks and Raymond Bryan formed the party but that he did not strike Wesley. Brooks, he said, had just been "naturalized" that night by the klan.

Two Cars

It was the custom in all floggings to have at least two cars, Bishop said, one to carry the victim and captors, and the other "a follow-up car."

Further procedure was disclosed by Trimble, who said all requests for floggings referred by him to the exalted cyclops who in turn gave them to the head of the "secret committee." He was most reluctant to refer to this group as "the wrecking crew" as other witnesses did freely.

Only the exalted cyclops knew the personnel of the "secret committee," Trimble said, and he insisted he could not testify if Cauthon was its head.

There was a "slip-up" on one occasion, testified Bishop, when Bert Harris, described as a "young thin factory worker," was beaten. W. T. Walton, one of the party, he said, called Bishop's name aloud, and Bishop tried to brain him with his pistol. Harris was sitting between the pair in the back seat of the kidnap car, Bishop declared, and Raymond Bryan and Dan Eidson were in the front seat. The machine was Eidson's, he said.

Aided Many Floggings.

Garland tried to get an admission from Bishop that he had headed "the crew," but this the witness hotly denied. He said he had been a member of the klan since about 1923 and had taken part in many floggings.

Bishop served under Lee's captaincy in 1937 and part of 1938 he swore, and said Cauthon told him when Cauthon had been named to head the "crew." Bishop admitted beating George Groom "four licks" with the whip. His title in the klan, Bishop said, was "Klorogo," or keeper of the inner door.

Victim Escapes.

Frank Burdette, East Point, another klan member, told of an effort to seize J. W. Wilkes on August 16, 1937. He testified that Cauthon, who is his first cousin, was in this party with Dan Eidson, himself, Raymond Bryan and Floyd Lee. Wilkes put up a fight and escaped in a five-minute chase, he said.

Under Garland's cross-examination Burdette said he had his "own personal reasons" for testifying after being told of his constitutional right to refuse.

Trimble, while on the stand, admitted helping to lash Louis H. Brown, who was taken to the East Point dump by a party including, he said, Scarborough, Cauthon, Bishop, Bryan, Lee and himself. He said Bryan and Lee were the other floggers and that, while he knew Cauthon was there, could not testify that he helped in the flogging.

Vigorously Quizzed.

Garland cross-examined Trimble vigorously, pointed out that Boykin had offered rewards for testimony in the Ike Gaston fatal flogging, charged that Trimble, a Sylvan Hills barber, was a competitor of Gaston, and demanded if Trimble didn't know Bishop and Gaston had quarreled over a dog. The defense attorney also drew an admission from the witness that he had refreshed his memory concerning flogging dates by newspapers.

Just before Guffin was called to the stand, Boykin put into the record a certificate of Henry Cauthon's ownership of a tan Oldsmobile.

Much of Garland's cross-examination of Toney dealt with a statement signed by Ruby Hines McConnell, Garland's own investigator, who went with Ernie Akridge to Toney's home April 5, posing as a cosmetics saleswoman, and got Toney to discuss the flogging.

Witness Refuses.

Garland's effort was to have Toney say he had described all of his captors and that none of the descriptions fit Cauthon, but this the witness refused to do. Boykin later brought out the subterfuge employed by the investigators and sought to show they never had returned for a leather case of cosmetics given Toney's daughter, Alleen, whom the investigators pretendedly were employing.

Levi Conkle twice pointed out Cauthon as one of his assailants. He denied direct quotations from his testimony and the coroner's inquest into Gaston's death, to the effect he couldn't identify anyone but later swore he recognized Cauthon at the inquest and feared to name him.

He said his father was flogged twice, the second time for asking the band to take them home after the first beating. It was the father who offered his flesh later as evidence of his injuries.

Robed Klansmen Burn Cross On Fair Street

A group of men wearing robes of the Ku Klux Klan burned a fiery cross Friday night near the corner of Fair and Lawshe streets, SW, bringing protests from colored residents in the neighborhood and sharp reprimands from Klan Imperial Wizard James A. Colescott and Police Chief Hornsby.

There were several versions of the affair.

Several reported that a group of about 25 robed men paraded a short distance from Fair street, then planted the flaming cross in the middle of an unpaved street under construction by the WPA. Others said that two carloads of robed men drove to the scene and four of them handled the erection and burning of the cross.

Police Chief Hornsby pointed out that any parade without a permit from authorities is a violation of city laws and warned against such infringement of authority. He also said that it is against the law for such groups to burn a cross except on private property and with consent of the owner. Chief Hornsby said he had no official report on the affair as most of his police from that section were on duty at a fire on Lee street at the time of the reported fiery cross burning.

Colescott, who recently issued a Klan edict against such action by members of the hooded order, said. "If a unit of the Klan paraded or burned a cross in that section it was purely intimidation, and I will not stand for it. He said he was launching an immediate investigation and wared that "There is a Klan unit in that neighborhood—if they are responsible, it means revocation of another charter," Colescott revoked the charter of the East Point Klan when it became established that this unit was responsible for the floggings and beatings which resulted in indictment of 17 alleged klansmen, five of whom have already been convicted and sentenced.

It was believed the Fair Street cross burning is the first open move by Klansmen in this immediate neighborhood since the East Point flogging investigation was opened.

KLAN WIZARD DENIES NAZI BUND SYMPATHY

Jersey Leaders Who Rented Camp Are Removed

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 17.—(INS)—Declaring there is no connection and no bond of sympathy between the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan and the German-American Bund, James A. Colescott, the Klan's imperial wizard, Tuesday revealed the officials who rented the Bund's Camp Nordland for last Sunday's Klan meeting in New Jersey has been removed from office.

"It is unfortunate that Camp Nordland was leased for the meeting," he said. "Had I known of the circumstances in advance I would have stopped it. The man responsible for it has been released from his office."

Mr. Colescott revealed he is considering a trip to New Jersey in connection with the affair. If he makes the trip, he said, he will personally denounce the Bund and inform the people of New Jersey exactly what the Klan stands for.

Mr. Colescott asserted that Bund members who attempted to solicit funds for the appeal of Fritz Kuhn, the Bund's founder, had been ejected from the camp. Mr. Colescott said he is leaving Atlanta Saturday for Detroit to discuss the Klan's drive against alien activities with Klan leaders of that state.

ALLIANCE BETWEEN KLAN, BUND DENIED, BELIEVE IT OR NOT!

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 15.—Imperial Wizard J. A. Colescutt of the national organization of the Ku Klux Klan, issued a sweeping and complete denial here Thursday of charges of an alliance in the state of New Jersey between the Klan and the German-American Bund, which was recently made by the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League. This charge, Colescutt contended, grew out of the renting of the Bund camp at Andover, N.J., by the Klan for the holding of a rally scheduled for Aug. 18.

Stating that at this rally, a statement will be read by him denouncing the Bund and all it stands for, Colescutt insisted material purporting to be furnished by the K.K.K. publicity department that appeared in a Bund magazine which praised the Bund's "Americanism," was written by a person not authorized to speak for the Klan and who is not and never has been a member of the organization.

2 Chased From Social Circle, Ga.

Klan Threatens To Flog Pair; Crosses Burn

SEP 15 1940

SOCIAL CIRCLE, Ga.—(S N S)—Two men, one a pioneer resident of this community, were forced to flee Saturday night after members of the local chapter, Ku Klux Klan staged a parade and burned fiery crosses in the colored section.

Threatened with a flogging unless they left town immediately were W. M. Knox, age 60, and George Easley. The crosses were burned in front of their houses.

Residents here expressed the belief the action of the Klan followed the discovery of a colored woman talking with a white man here last week in some woods bordering the Negro section.

Just what connection Knox and Easley had with the case and how they had aroused the resentment of local Klansmen was not made clear.

Text of East Point Resolution Decrying Hoodlums' Activities

Text of the resolution adopted Monday night by the East Point city council, attacking activities of hoodlums who have been beating scores of persons in the last four years, follows in full:

Whereas, it has come to the attention of the city council of East Point that numerous persons in and near East Point have been snatched up and forcibly carried away into the woods and there unmercifully beaten in the last 12 months; and,

Whereas, These floggings have been perpetrated by some self-appointed group of outlaws without the courage to individually meet their victim in the open with their grievances, if they had any; and

Whereas, The most recent of these outrages resulted in the death of an East Point citizen unlawfully and forcibly snatched from his place of business in the night and carried to a lonely spot just outside the limits of our city and,

"Prejudice and Passion."

Whereas, The accuser and the complainer constitutes himself the court and the jury in cases of mob violence, where the voice of reason is not heard, and where prejudice and passion, hearsay and rumor are replied on for the conviction, and the helpless victim has not the benefit of counsel, witnesses, nor impartiality; and,

Whereas, This cowardly practice has long since been discontinued in all civilized communities and cannot and will not ever again be allowed to displace courts of justice in our community.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the city council of East Point:

1. That we denounce and condemn the taking of human beings forcibly and against their will, under the cover of darkness, away from their homes or places of business or elsewhere, for any purpose, and especially for the cowardly purpose of ganging up on a man and beating him while he is held or tied in a helpless condition.

2. That we, the mayor and aldermen of the city of East Point, do condemn and denounce as cowardly criminals every man taking part in the planning or execution of taking citizens out and whipping them.

3. That the East Point police force be and it is hereby ordered, directed, commanded and required to make diligent search and keep constantly on the lookout for the perpetrators of these dastardly outrages in our community.

4. That we respectfully submit to the citizens that it is their duty as citizens and law-abiding people to co-operate with the law enforcement officers of this city and county to the end that these lawless conditions may be remedied and that the perpetrators of these criminal acts may be swiftly and certainly brought to justice and punishment duly administered.

5. We do here and now pledge to the people of this community, and of the county and state, our whole-hearted enthusiastic and genuine co-operation, as a body and individually, in the hunt for and the punishment of the persons guilty of these repeated acts of lawlessness, and the public is urged to furnish any information they may have about any of these conditions to the solicitor general or the East Point police department, or to any member of the city council of East Point.

KLAN OPERATIONS BARED; DEPUTY IS EXALTED CYCLOPS

Another Sheriff's Aide and East Point Policeman Identified as Members of Whipping Band

By WILLARD COPE.

Returning its verdict after an all-day inquest in which four men, one a Fulton county deputy sheriff and another an East Point city policeman, were identified as participants in similar floggings, a coroner's jury last night found Ike Gaston, Hapeville barber, "came to his death as the result of an unlawful beating administered by three or more men, the identities of whom were not revealed by the evidence."

The verdict climaxed a day of sensational developments in which operations of the Ku Klux Klan were bared and several flogging victims testified the cars in which they were abducted bore the emblem of Fulton county.

Denied by Officers.

G. W. Wright, a farmer near Stonewall, testified two of the members of the night riding party which whipped him in June, 1938 were Herb Eidson, a deputy sheriff, and T. A. Andrews, a member of the police department of East Point. Eidson and Andrews vigorously denied the accusation saying they "never saw Wright before in their lives."

L. G. Rainwater, who gave his address as 985 Crew street, testified Eidson was a member of a party which carried him off on a night in November, 1938, but did not whip him.

Only one witness, Alex Smith, a mill hand, testified directly in connection with the Gaston slaying. He said he saw three men drive up to Gaston's barber shop last Thursday night and carry him off in a car. Smith was unable to pick out any of the men from a large group of men assembled by Coroner Paul Donehoo and Assistant Solicitor General Daniel Duke at the inquest.

Gaston's badly beaten body was found several miles from East Point early last Friday morning.

Last Identified.

T. E. Young, of East Point, testified he was whipped on the night of August 12, 1939. He identified a pronged lash picked up near where Gaston's body was found as the same lash used on him. Duke had the flogging victim remove parts of his clothing and attempted to prove to the jury from the welts on the victim's body that the same lash was used to whip Young.

Coroner Donehoo and Duke paraded a number of flogging victims to show Gaston was the victim of a similar attack.

After identifying the lash, Young "fingered" W. C. Anderson, already held in one flogging case, as a member of the party which whipped him. He also picked a man giving his name as J. R. Banks as one of the members of the party. Banks denied any participation.

Two Others Identified.

Two other men, Bill Walton, of near East Point, and W. C. Bishop were identified by witnesses as participants in floggings, although both denied participation.

E. K. Ramage, a printer, testified Bishop was the leader of a party which flogged him last year for "being drunk and disorderly." Mrs. Ramage identified Bishop as one of two men who came to the Ramage home and summoned her husband.

A "father and son" whipping was brought to light during the inquiry. Q. W. Conkle and his son, Levi, of near Hapeville, said they were taken out and whipped on the night of September 15, 1939. The elder Conkle gave his age as 50 and the son said he is 30. They were unable to identify any of their tormentors.

Deputy Heads Klan.

Relentless questioning by Coroner Donehoo and Duke brought these disclosures:

1. Fulton County Deputy Sheriff W. W. Scarborough admitted that he is the exalted cyclops, or head officer, of the East Point Ku Klux Klan and that his fellow deputy sheriffs, Herb Eidson and Edward Burdette, also are members.

2. Gaston's father-in-law, Julian Astin, admitted he had written a letter to "East Point Klansmen thanking them for the good Klan parade had done last summer before Gaston's barber shop. He also admitted telling a "Dr. Holt" at the East Point police station one week before the fatal beating that this Klan action was the only thing that ever had affected Gaston's drinking habits. He denied suggesting the beating or any similar action.

3. A young woman companion of E. B. Benson, who operates a restaurant next door to Gaston's barbershop at Hapeville Junction, East Point, declared that Benson had observed to officers late on the Thursday night of the beating that Gaston "probably has left" his shop, although but a short time before he had seen the barber lying drunk upon the floor of the shop and apparently unconscious.

Suspicions Related.

4. County Policeman J. W. Gilbert, who has been most active in investigating the flogging, testified to seeing under circumstances he called suspicious in conjunction with other floggings, Deputies Eidson and Burdette, the former's brother Dan and Henry Kauffman. He also described certain automobiles used in various floggings.

5. Deputy Scarborough admitted possession of an automobile which Duke declared, in examining the witness, was similar to a "county automobile" reported by witnesses to have been seen in connection with floggings.

Scarborough was made to admi under grilling, both by Duke and Coroner Donehoo, that a single letter of request to his Klan would result in the burning of a fiery cross and a parade in the vicinity of any place where "someone wasn't doing like he ought to." The robed unit operated around East Point, College Park, Egan Park, Stonewall, Fairburn and smaller places in the general region.

He insisted that the Klan went no further than to parade and burn crosses and denied any connection with floggings.

Denies Questions.

"Didn't you tell someone at the courthouse about a certain man: 'Our committee has passed on him?'" Duke demanded.

"Absolutely not," declared Scarborough.

"And that 'you all had better not pick him up when a certain officer is on duty because he doesn't like that kind of thing?'"

"I defy anybody to say I said that."

"Didn't you say, 'This man needs the leather—he's got to have the leather?'"

"Never in my life have I said such a thing."

Scarborough expressed indignation that the Klan should have been accused of any floggings and declared a committee consisting of Burdette, Eidson and George Cameron had been appointed to investigate floggings. He said nothing ever had been accomplished.

Records Destroyed.

All records of the Klan have been destroyed, he said he believed, and Duke immediately sought a summons for Luke Trimble, whom Scarborough named as the Klan secretary.

The cyclops, under heavy questioning, finally gave the procedure of the Klan as being this:

A letter is received asking for a cross-burning or parade at a given location.

There is no investigation. Imperial Wizard James W. Colescott is telephoned for permission. This inevitably is granted, the witness said, although the wizard receives no further information.

The demonstration then staged. A party from the East Point Klan goes to the designated point and meets "a committee" from the locality requesting the co-operation.

"Aren't you trading on the impression of people generally that the Klan does conduct these beatings?" Scarborough was asked.

Piece-Meal Admission.

He denied this directly, but under further detailed insistence made the admission piece meal.

"It is a resort to intimidation," Coroner Donehoo told him.

"Did the Klan ever stop a flogging?" asked the coroner.

"I don't know of any."

"If you found some of your members had been in a flogging what would you do?"

"We would banish them."

The cyclops named Henry Cawthorn and Bailey Cawthorn as former members of his organization.

In Robes.

The witness told of one occasion when he warned a parking lot proprietor about getting more light when the Klan paraded by.

"Did you tell him who you were—that you were a deputy sheriff?" pressed Duke.

"No. I was enrobed."

"What did that have to do with it?"

"I didn't care to identify myself."

"Why aren't you willing to let people know who you are or see your faces when you go out that way at night in your regalias?"

"We just don't do it."

Duke suggested to Scarborough that there was an exchange understanding, whereby Klans of East Point, Lithonia, College Park and Oakland City sent members to assist each other in their undertakings. Scaroborough said it wasn't done.

The witness attempted at one point to discourse upon the nocturnal conduct of young people, parked in automobiles around drink stands, and offered the belief that "If something isn't done—" but was interrupted by Duke and Donehoo, who told him to confine himself to answering questions.

Tells of Autos.

Officer Gilbert's testimony concerning automobiles had specifically to do with a blue Buick identified as belonging to Henry Cawthorn, and a dark Terraplane.

He told of a talk he had with Herb Eidson after trailing the deputy, his brother Dan, Deputy Burdette and Henry Kauffman one night soon after the lashing of a preacher in Egan Park. Herb Eidson demanded to know his reason for following them while Eidson sought to calm his brother.

On the night of the whipping of a Mr. Conkle and his boy," Gilbert testified, he saw Herb Eidson, Burdette and about a dozen men standing about the Hapeville police station. Near by was the blue Buick. There were three other automobiles. and Gilbert's partner, now dead, took the license numbers.

Benson, whose restaurant adjoins Gaston's barber shop, was questioned closely as to his reactions to the latter's drinking. He denied ever having said, or heard said: "He needs a good whipping."

Saw Gaston,

At considerable length, and repeatedly, Benson was taken over the events of Thursday night March 7, when Gaston last was seen alive in his shop. Benson said he saw Gaston lying on the floor about 11 o'clock and went for police because there was a cushion very close to the gas heater which might cause a fire.

Benson and his young woman companion, Miss Dorothy Cheek, disagreed as to the time consumed, and the latter attributed to Benson this circumstance:

"When we came back with the police from East Point he said, 'I believe Gaston has gone.' This was before they entered the shop."

A pathetic, low-voiced figure, Mrs. Gaston told of her difficulties with her husband, and was unable to identify two men said to have come to her home looking for her husband shortly before his fatal flogging.

Husband Nervous.

She described under questioning a parade of the Ku Klux Klan last summer before her husband's barber shop.

"Ike got mighty nervous all right," she said. "He thought it was meant for him."

This was the parade about which her father admitted he wrote a letter to East Point Klansmen. He said he prepared it only to satisfy his wife, and did not send it. The father, Astin, also described his conversation with the "Dr. Holt" one week before Gaston's death in these words:

"I went down to police station where they had Ike, and I talked to him, and came out and talked to the chief and Dr. Holt. Finally, Dr. Holt said: 'Can't we send him away somewhere and cure him?' I said: 'The only thing I ever knew that did him any good was that parade last summer.'"

Beyond this, Astin insisted, he did not go.

Benson Recalled.

After Miss Cheek's testimony Benson was recalled.

"Didn't you know some men were going to pick up Ike that night?" Duke asked him.

"No."

"What made you say you thought Ike had left, even before you went into the shop that last time?"

"I can't swear that I said it—I don't remember it."

"But you can't swear you didn't say it?"

"I suppose not."

Mindling Testifies.

An interesting interlude was the examination of Forecaster George W. Mindling, of the United States Weather Bureau, as to conditions that night.

Benson had been unable, he said, to remember whether it was raining while he went for the police.

The forecaster, consulting the voluminous record book he brought with him, said it had rained from 3:12 p. m. Thursday until 9:05 a. m., Friday. The temperature did not go below 34 degrees.

The incident recalled a legend of Abraham Lincoln, that the then sagacious young country lawyer proved by an almanac there had been no moon on the night of a murder, after witnesses had testified they recognized Lincoln's client by the moonlight.

At the outset of the hearing Andrew White, negro farmhand, who found Gaston's body in a snowy field three miles below Ben Hill, told of his discovery. A. J. Redwine, owner of the land, gave formal testimony, and Sergeant J. L. Perry, of the county identification bureau, described the scene and finding the heavy, barbarous whip.

Klansmen Not Eligible

That justice shall have an opportunity to function as it should, Fulton County authorities in Georgia, preparing for the trial of a dozen Ku Klux Klansmen, are considering use of Klan membership lists to purge their jury lists. The Klansmen are charged with carrying on a reign of whipping terrorism. One victim was killed.

No sooner did word get out that authorities would make an effort to keep Klansmen off the trial juries than J. A. Colescott, imperial wizard of the Klan, put on his ornate, overstuffed nightshirt and issued a ukase that such a purge would be "unfair and illegal."

Those are queer-sounding words when they come from the mouth of a man who leads an organization which operates in the dark and with totally unfair and illegal practices. The very nature of his oath would prevent a Klansman from returning a guilty verdict against one of his own ilk accused of an offense which the Klan not only condones but encourages.

Expressions of judicial virtue come with full mockery from the mouth of a Klansman, be he imperial wizard, grand dragon or high pooh-bah, and when made, fool nobody. The technique, ritualism and ambitions of the Klan are too well known. It is an order existing for the very purpose of taking the law into its own hands and it is as unAmerican as Communism.

It makes a great show of morality, yet its very tenets are as unmoral as anything pretending to be American could be. There can be no justice, no fairness, no morality in an organization which spawns bigotry, racial and religious intolerance, and a complete disregard for human rights.

We wouldn't trust a Klansman hearing evidence against a fellow denizen of the black night any more than we trust the impartiality of a member of any other group as subversive as the Klan. Apparently Georgia authorities feel the same way about it.

Floyd I. Lee, Klan Member, Indicted Here

12 Counts Accuse Unwilling Witness of Assault, Battery

Flyod I. Lee, a member of the East Point klan, was indicted by the Fulton county grand jury yesterday on 12 counts charging assault and battery.

Lee had declined to testify at the trial of Henry Cauthon on the grounds that to do so might incriminate him. He had been called as a state's witness.

Lee figured prominently in the flogging investigation before the grand jury and is alleged to have given the solicitor general a confession naming several of those persons already under indictment in connection with the Ku Klux Klan floggings.

However, when he was called to the witness stand last week to testify against Cauthon he took his attorney's advice and refused to answer practically every question put to him by the state.

His answer was always the same—"Judge, I believe that will incriminate me."

The true bill set out that Lee participated in the following 12 floggings: June 29, 1938, G. W. Wright; November 19, 1937, J. T. Fuqua; April 30, 1938, E. K. Rammage; August 1, 1938, P. S. Toney; June 10, 1938, W. L. Pennington; January 29, 1937, W. R. Jackson; July 27, 1939, T. E. Young; May 23, 1939, W. L. Allen; March 14, 1938, Joe Otwell; June 4, 1937, Louis Brown; August 18, 1937, J. W. Wilkes; March 21, 1938, Bert Harris.

Constitution Staff Photo—Bill Wilson

PLA YLEADING ROLES—Three outstanding figures at the Henry Cauthon flogging trial were in a jovial mood when the cameraman caught them during opening proceedings in Fulton superior court yesterday. In the picture are Cauthon's wife, Cauthon (center), and Reuben Garland, chief of defense counsel.

The Klan Unmasks

Action of the board of directors or, as they call themselves, the "kloncilium" of the Ku Klux Klan in ordering discontinuance of the mask as part of the order's regalia, will be acclaimed by everyone—both those who feel kindly toward the organization and those who have fought it—as the wisest move it has ever made.

By this one stroke the basic cause for criticism of the Klan has been removed and it is now possible, if the Klan's announced objective, the inculcation of "Americanism," is correctly accredited, for it to actually perform a worthy service.

The only pity is that the unmasking did not take place years ago. For, if the Klan had not made it a custom to appear in public wearing the masks, to stage "warning parades," and to burn "fiery crosses" it is extremely doubtful if such sickening outrages upon American rights as the south Fulton floggings would ever have occurred.

However, that tragic denouement is now history, an accomplished fact, and all that can be done is to bring the perpetrators of the outrages to justice, to exact the fullest penalty of the law after they have been convicted in fair and open trial.

At the same time as the kloncilium ordered the masks removed from Klan regalia, other important rulings were made public. One forbids the appearance of the Klan in parades without special permission either from the state, or national, head of the order as well as from local authorities.

Another places the same restriction upon the burning of "fiery crosses," with the added stipulation they cannot be burned on privately owned property unless with the permission of the owner.

It may now be expected that the Klan will be able to function for the real good of its membership and for the public at large, just as any other worthy secret order may function. Of course, it will still be possible, as in any organization, for an undesirable individual to secure membership, occasionally. This, by the law of probability, is unavoidable. The action of the imperial wizard, James A. Colescott, and the kloncilium, however, is assurance that such persons will not retain their membership after their true character has been exposed.

It was a bitter paradox that the Klan, while proclaiming its adherence to Americanism, followed a practice, that of public wearing of masks, that is the most un-American possible to conceive.

If there is one basic spirit to all Americanism, it is open, public support of those principles for which the individual stands. The fundamental principles enumerated in the constitution and the bill of rights must, of necessity, wither in any nation where men are permitted to hide their identities while engaged in any activity.

Such hidden stealth is repugnant to every instinct of the free American and there can be no possible excuse, or condition, warranting it.

It is sincerely to be hoped that, now their masks have been removed, no member of the Klan will be ashamed to appear in public, face uncovered, as an individual unit of the organization.

The Klan, if its membership wills, can now be made into a strong factor in intelligent education of its members in those principles which all men must understand and practice, if American democracy is to justify itself and survive the insidious onslaughts of those who would destroy it.

If proper understanding of the foundation stones of this nation becomes the Klan objective, all objectionable features which have marred its past will automatically be removed, just as the mask has now been done away with.

THE KLAN UNMASKS

Just to keep the record clear, it is just and proper to report that the grand "Kloncilium" of the Ku Klux Klan of America has decided that masks will never be worn again by their organized mobsters. Meeting in Atlanta while the front pages of the local papers were being splashed with eight column pictures of the trial of the lash-wielding Klansmen of the suburbs, the directors of the organization made their decision to unmask the Klan.

Alabama unmasked the organization and thereby rid itself of the vilest and most contemptible group of terrorists ever to attempt to wrest control of a region from decent, un-masked Americans. The Klan promptly died in Alabama.

It may be an unfair conclusion, but the facts support it. The Klan cannot exist without masks, as proved by the Alabama example. Therefore, the people who are the backbone of the Klan movement cannot afford to show their faces and be recognized.

This move of the national directorate might finish off the organization, which would be a public gain. It also might be a maneuver designed to confuse its opposition and keep masks as discretionary uniform subject only to the judgment of the organization itself. The only safe way to do it is by law, not by edict of some ridiculous "Kloncilium."

The newspapers of Atlanta, who have performed mightily in the public cause by keeping a glaring spotlight on the suburban Klan trials, all greet the unmasking move with somewhat chilly applause. They feel that it is a good move, which it is. The Advertiser would like to advise Georgia to cinch the proposition by writing the unmasking decree into state law.

FLOGGING PROBER HELD IN CONTEMPT

Assistant Prosecutor Spared Penalty Because Of Zeal In Inquiry

ATLANTA, (AP) —An assistant prosecutor in probe that has resulted in flogging indictments against 13 men was held in contempt of court Saturday for verbally abusing a witness but spared any penalty because of his zeal in the inquiry.

The contempt citation was directed at Daniel Duke, assistant solicitor, by Superior Judge Paul S. Etheridge, who held Duke had "abused and villified" Henry Cawthon with "profane language."

At the time the alleged offense occurred, Cawthon, listed on Ku Klux Klan rolls of suburban East Point, was a witness in a grand jury investigation of night floggings. Later he was included in a group charged by the grand jury with a series of 26 lashings in suburban districts.

"Zeal is a good thing," commented Judge Etheridge in delivering the contempt citation. "The assistant solicitor has been very zealous and is to be commended for this. However, he let his zeal run away with him, lost his temper.

"I am holding him in contempt but I shall not punish him because of his zeal."

Duke has been in the thick of the probe since it was set off by the fatal scourging the night of March 7 of Isaac Gaston, East Point barber.

None of the indicted men is charged with Gaston's death. The indictments all specify non-fatal whippings.

"Everyone seems to agree," he added, "that the Klan mask has no place in our organization today. So far, only one member has voiced opposition to discarding it."

Colescott said the copies of the edicts were forwarded in the mails yesterday to Klan units in various sections of the nation and reiterated that "any Klansman disobeying these orders will be dealt with severely."

More Brutal Flogging Stories Are Related In Klansman's Trial

ATLANTA, (AP)—Stories of night lashings that stripped the flesh from bare backs piled up today at the trial of Henry Cawthon, red-haired filling station keeper charged with 16 floggings.

First to identify Cawthon, on Ku Klux Klan rolls at suburban East Point, as a flogger was Levi Conkle, 29-year-old metal worker of Hapeville, another suburb.

Conkle testified at the Superior Court trial yesterday that a night riding band lashed him and his 50-year-old father last Sept. 15, telling them they had been drinking too much.

Other witnesses told of having their clothes stripped off by night riders and their hands and feet held while a barbarously-wielded lash dug into the bare flesh.

Black-hooded lashers came "damn nigh" killing him, P. S. Toney, husky cotton mill worker and CIO Union member, asserted. He said they lured him from his home on the pretense of being officers, and gave him 25 or more lashes.

They told him, he said, "We're going to break up these damn unions."

Denial that klansmen wore their hoods and gowns on whipping trips was made by W. C. Bishop, former East Point klogoro (keeper of the inner door. "It would disgrace the order," he explained.

Bishop said he had not helped flog "so awful many men."

Besides Cawthon, 12 other men are under flogging indictments. Most of them are on East Point klan rolls.

Klan Is Deluged By Approval of Ban on Masking

Messages Pour in From All Over U. S., Colescott Says.

Ku Klux Klan headquarters in Atlanta yesterday was deluged with telegrams and phone calls approving the issuance of edicts eliminating the use of masks and restricting the burning of fiery crosses, J. A. Colescott, imperial wizard, said last night.

Messages came from all parts of the country, and at least a third of them were from non-members of the Klan, Colescott asserted.

Flogging Case Is 'Frame-Up,' Cauthon Says

Defendant Weeps Convulsively After Pleading for His Freedom.

By WILLARD COPE.

The stocky, long-armed garage operator of severe injury, whom the state accused in nine flogging charges as "wrecking crew boss" of the East Point Ku Klux Klan pleaded his case to the jury yesterday afternoon in faltering words and flowing tears.

"I've been framed," Henry Cauthon earnestly told the 12 men sitting in judgment on him in superior court. "I'm not guilty of any of the indictments they've got on me. I hope and trust to the Lord you'll let me go back home to my family a free man."

Sobs Convulsively.

His eyes filled as he left the witness stand, after speaking about four minutes, and as he reached his chair at the counsel table, he began sobbing convulsively. He sank into the chair, and his wife, sitting at his right, threw her arms about him. For some minutes the defendant's face was buried in her left shoulder while she patted his head.

Cauthon's brother, Jake, who has sat with him throughout the trial and assisted Defense Attorney Reuben Garland in numerous details, struggled obviously to control his emotions. Garland went briefly to his client's side and comforted him.

Almost at once, the defense rested, and the prosecution, led by Solicitor General John A. Boykin and his assistant, Daniel Duke, began offering rebuttal witnesses. All testimony was completed. Each side will be allowed an hour's argument today; the court charge will be made and the case submitted to the jury.

Effect Dramatic.

Cauthon's unsworn statement gained dramatic effect from its very lack of organization.

"I'm a man of no education, and I can't make a speech," he said to the jury, while the crowded, silent court room listened. "I was taken out of school when I was 12 years old to help my daddy make a living. I've worked hard all my life.

"Solicitor Duke come to my home town and to the school where my children go and tried to poison their minds against me. Trimble and Bishop (two confessed floggers who turned state's evidence) have told lies on me. I want to thank the judge for his fairness. Let me go home to my wife and children."

Brother Prompts.

He broke off and seemed about to leave the stand, but his brother hurried to his side and spoke rapidly. Judge Hugh M. Dorsey, presiding, broke into this prompting, which is not legally permissible. Cauthon resumed speaking:

"Davis (Roy Davis, a state's witness) lied about me on the stand here. He is a friend of Parham's (Mayor J. R. Parham, of East Point, an assistant solicitor general) and maybe that's why he did it. I am not guilty, and I hope you will let me go home to my wife and children."

"Knowledge of and a part in" the fatal flogging of Ike Gaston March 7 was specifically charged to the defendant by Boykin in arguing for submission to the jury of testimony that Cauthon knew several hours before Gaston's body was discovered that he had been beaten.

Testimony Barred.

A witness, P. M. Nelms, East Point filling station operator, had given an affidavit saying Cauthon told him about 9 o'clock on the morning of March 8: "They took Ike out last night." Nelms was on the stand prepared to testify, but Judge Dorsey ruled with Garland's hot contention that such testimony was not admissible.

Garland fought throughout the day, in examining more than 30 witnesses, to break down the state's testimony and impeach the character of various witnesses. He went at length into conditions in the grand jury witness room March 21 when, he contended, improper pressure and prompting were employed by the flogging probers.

Jurors Favor Continuation of Flogging Probe

County Praised, Paroles by State Criticized in Presentments.

Urging a continuation of the investigation into flogging activities —particularly the Ike Gaston murder—to warn that "our citizenry will not tolerate privately constituted 'law and order' groups," the March-April grand jury yesterday completed a two months' probe of county government that was highly complimentary to county and caustic of state parole practices.

The jury's presentments recommended:

1—A $750,000 bond issue for county school purposes and a city-county bond issue for construction of new buildings at Grady hospital and Battle Hill sanatorium.

Civil Service Urged.

2—Installation of a civil service system for county employes to promote efficiency.

3—Construction of a one or two-story wing to the courthouse to relieve congestion, particularly in the clerk's office.

4—A new concrete building at the Bellwood convict camp; elimination of the Sandy Springs convict camp and construction of a fireproof hospital at Bellwood camp.

5—Periodic change in county auditors.

Change Auto System.

6—A change in the county auto set-up. The jury said the county should reacquire all autos assigned to county police and place proper restriction on their personal use. Last August, the county sold all its autos and instituted a system whereby persons using their cars for county business were paid on a mileage basis.

Of paroles, the jury said: "We demand . . . that this indiscriminate freeing of convicted criminals shall cease." They also called upon succeeding grand juries to take "careful note" of conditions and "if they observe a change of attitude on the part of those responsible, they set in motion to bring to judgment any and every official who is concerned."

Salaries in Line.

In praising county government, the jury set out there is no surplus of employes and added salaries "do not seem to be out of line with those paid in private business." This comment was directed at the commissioners' office, the treasury and purchasing department.

The jury also said: "We have found city and county officials keenly desirous of help and suggestion and willing to co-operate and to put into effect such recommendations as were practical and feasible."

The presentments also said "many of us are prone to assume that people in governmental work are lax, indifferent and inefficient. This is obviously an unfair indictment of many honest, conscientious people."

The jury directed criticism at the public works department's accounting system, which it termed "obsolete" and at the amount being spent for legal service as being "too high." They urged the police department to set up a definite age for appointment and retirement, and said all appointments should be made on a competitive basis.

Walter Forster FoundGuiltyon Flogging Count

Wins Acquittal of Two Other Charges; Faces Sentence Today.

Walter Forster, former Atlanta policeman and a Ku Klux Klan member, was found guilty on one count of flogging by a Fulton superior court jury at 6 o'clock last night. He was found not guilty on two other counts.

The jury, which deliberated for an hour and 20 minutes, found the ex-patrolman guilty of the beating of Bert Harris, a textile worker, on March 21, 1938. He was exonerated on charges that he participated in the floggings of E. K. Ramage, of East Point, and P. S. Toney, of Decatur.

Sentence will be passed at 9 o'clock this morning by Superior Court Judge Walter C. Hendrix. Under the law, he faces a maximum penalty of 12 months on the public works, six months in prison, and a $1,000 fine.

The case went to the jury shortly before 5 o'clock, after Solicitor General John A. Boykin had called upon the jury to put a stop to the operations of this "secret committee."

"Are you going to let a secret committee rule the destinies of the people?" he asked. "Are you, as jurors, going to abdicate? Is this court going to quit?"

Earlier, Forster had denied on the witness stand any participation in floggings.

"It is true that I am a member of the Klan, but the Klan stands for law and order—not beatings," he said. "I'm not going to ask the jury for mercy. If I were guilty, I'd say 'pour it to me,' but I am innocent and I ask only for justice."

The defense introduced the evidence of four witnesses, all relatives by marriage, to prove the defendant was attending a birthday party on August 1, 1938, the day P. S. Toney was flogged. All testified Forster was attending a birthday dinner in honor of his young nephew, Frank Pickelsimer, in Marietta on the night of August 1.

However, on cross-examination, Solicitor Boykin asked J. W. Gaines, young Pickelsimer's grandfather and one of the witnesses, how many grandchildren he had and he said "eleven."

Then Boykin asked him the date of each of their birthdays, and he was unable to name them.

Forster, the fourth to be tried in the probe into night-riding activities, is also the fourth to be convicted. The three previously tried all received the maximum legal penalty.

Two Victims Point Finger At Dan Eidson As Flogger

ATLANTA, (AP)—Dan Eidson, 25-year-old suburban Ku Klux Klansman and alleged whip-maker for a night-riding "wrecking crew," was identified in court Tuesday by two victims as a participant in suburban Atlanta floggings.

Eidson, on trial on four counts of assault and battery, flushed visibly as James W. Wilkes, East Point truck driver, pointed to the defendant as one of seven or eight men who blackjacked him and sought to force him into a waiting car. The trucker said he fought free and hid in a nearby woods while his assailants vainly beat the brush in search for him.

Another witness, George Grooms, a Negro, told how Eidson thrust a pistol into his mouth after forcing him from his home, threw dust in his face while others held him on the ground, and finally kicked him in the mouth.

Two whips, one of them the ingenious flogging device found last March 7 near the frozen and beaten body of Isaac Gaston, East Point barber, were exhibited frequently by Solicitor General John Boykin.

Three fellow employes of the defendant in an Atlanta printing plant, R. H. Randall, R. R. Beavers and F. B. Wilke Jr., testified they saw Eidson make a similar whip 18 months ago.

A third flogging victim, Textile Worker Bert Harris of Chattahoochee, looked intently at Eidson after telling of a beating two years ago and said:

"That looks mighty like the little man that drove the automobile that night."

Eidson reddened, then smiled.

FIFTH MAN GUILTY IN FLOGGING CASE

Chicken Farmer Walton Gets Four and Half Years And Fine Of $3,000

ATLANTA (AP)—Convicted late Friday on three flogging charges growing out of suburban night-riding terrorism, W. T. Walton, a husky, middle-aged chicken farmer, was sentenced immediately to four and one-half years' imprisonment and fined $3,000.

The penalty was the maximum possible under the law. Walton was charged with assault and battery, involving the beatings of E. K. Ramage, P. S. Toney and Bert Harris in the summer of 1938.

Walton was the fifth alleged member of the East Point Ku Klux Klan "wrecking crew" to be convicted following a series of whippings in south Fulton county for which 17 men were indicted.

Two additional assault and battery charges and one kidnaping accusation, the latter in connection with the seizure and flogging of Toney, a CIO organizer, still face Walton.

Walton's attorney filed notice of appeal and he was released on $3,000 bond pending a hearing July 12th.

New Flog Attempts Revealed

Tried to Beat Colored Woman In Egan Park

Luke L. Trimble, white, secretary of the East Point Ku Klux Klan, testified Wednesday that a gang of white floggers had attempted to whip a colored woman "who was reported operating an immoral house at Egan Park."

Trimble, an East Point barber, testified for the prosecution at the trial of Raymond (Slim) Bryan, East Point factory mechanic, who faces several flogging charges in Fulton Superior Court.

Trimble said night-riders failed in their effort to flog the colored woman because county police came along "when we stopped with her and broke it up."

The barber's testimony brought to light at least four attempted floggings (three of them white) that had not been reported to county officials.

Trimble testified that he was with the gang of floggers when they attempted to whip the four people.

Walton on Trial In Flogging Case

W. T. Walton, chicken farmer, accused of being one of the members of the East Point Ku Klux Klan's secret "whipping" committee, went on trial yesterday in Fulton superior court on charges of participating in three floggings of white men.

During the day, Solicitor General John A. Boykin and Assistant Solicitor Daniel Duke placed nearly a dozen state witnesses on the stand seeking to prove to the jury that Walton aided in the lashing of P. S. Toney, textile union worker, on August 1, 1938; E. K. Ramage, linotype operator, on April 30, 1938, and Bert Harris, textile worker, on March 21, 1938.

The case probably will reach the jury late this afternoon.

Two More Men Face Flogging Trials Tuesday

George Cameron, Bailey Cawthon Cases Placed on Calendar

Trials of persons indicted on charges of participation in the East Point floggings will continue this week in Fulton superior court, Solicitor General John A. Boykin announced yesterday as he placed two cases on the calendar for Tuesday.

Scheduled to face Judge Walter C. Hendrix are George Cameron and Bailey Cawthon, both said to be members of the East Point Ku Klux Klan. Cameron is to be tried on charges of aiding in the floggings of D. M. Harper on July 7, 1939, E. K. Ramage on April 30, 1938, and W. H. Ables and J. W. Wilkes on August 11, 1939.

Cawthon is accused of helping lash L. H. Brown on June 4, 1937, and T. E. Young on July 27, 1937. They will be the sixth and seventh persons to stand trial since the solicitor general indicted 17 persons as the outgrowth of a series of floggings in the East Point area.

Flogging Venue Hearing Continues

The effort of attorneys for George Cameron, indicted in four floggings, to obtain a change of venue from Fulton county will be continued today before Judge Hugh M. Dorsey in Fulton superior court.

Assistant Solicitors E. E. Andrews and Daniel Duke are to offer answers today to the charges of Defense Attorneys Harold Sheats and Isaac Wengrow that the newspapers of Atlanta have so inflamed the minds of the public against the suspected floggers that Cameron cannot receive a fair trial here.

Convicted Flogger Gets 3-Year Term

Raymond (Slim) Bryan, white city mechanic of East Point, was given the maximum sentence of three years imprisonment and a $2,000 fine Friday after a Fulton Superior Court jury had found him guilty on two flogging counts.

Bryan's conviction is the third since county authorities began investigating the alleged night-riding activities conducted by a group of white men near East Point. Ku Klux Klan leaders of East Point have been linked with the floggings.

COLORED WOMAN NEAR-VICTIM

During the trial of Bryan, a white witness testified that the floggers picked up a colored woman and would have beaten her had not county policemen ordered the victim released.

In another of the flogging trials, George Grooms, colored, said a white flogger sat on his head and rammed a pistol down his throat.

Following the sentencing of Bryan, Solicitor General John Boykin announced that "overtures" have been made to his office by several flogging defendants who desire to enter guilty pleas.

Dixie Movement Grows To Probe Ku Klux Klan

ATLANTA.—(ANP)—There is a fast growing movement here and in other southern states for a very thorough investigation of the Ku Klux Klan and its relation to Hitler. The klan attitude toward Jews and Catholics parallels the Nazi attitude and the action of the klan in terrorizing Negroes in upper South Carolina last fall was not unlike the actions of Nazi sterm troopers in Germany.

At the trials here of the klan floggers, a number of whom have been convicted, evidence was introduced to show that the German bund had made an attempt to buy into the klan. The bund apparently recognized in the klan an organization of similar beliefs.

The Invisible Empire, Realm of Georgia, Realm of South Carolina, Chief of Staff and like terms are used by the klan in their organization set-ups. This semi-military trend of the klan could very easily be turned into a powerful and dangerous fifth column.

Apparently a number of klansmen have realized the danger of the klan in America today and are resigning in large numbers.

There is an indication that the federal authorities realize the klan menace and the large force of federal agents here and in other cities in the South are carefully investigating klan leaders for violation of federal laws.

A former imperial wizard, Hiram Evans, has already been charged with federal offenses. There is a possibility that congress will pass laws outlawing the klan and similar organizations.

MOVE GROWS TO PROBE KLAN AS '5TH COLUMN'

Southern States Push Action

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Klan Officials Fired For Holding Meeting In German Bund Camp

High Officer Of Latter Addressed Group, Charge Of Imperial Wizard

ATLANTA—(AP)—James Colescott, imperial wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, announced today that he had ordered the immediate removal of two New Jersey Klan officials as the result of a klan meeting in a German-American Bund camp at Andover, N. J., last Sunday.

He named the officials as Arthur H. Bell, of Bloomfield, N. J., grand dragon of the New Jersey klan, and A. M. Young, of Newark, grand klaliff.

Colescott asserted in a statement that Bell permitted "a high officer of the German-American Bund to address" the meeting at Camp Nordland, and that both officials "failed to live up to the ideals and principles of the klan in their management" of the meeting.

He declared his investigation "reflects that men holding membership in the German-American Bund were present in large numbers" and "remarks were made by a speaker to the effect that the Ku Klux Klan and the German-American Bund were interested in a common cause."

"There can be no sympathy on the part of the bund and the klan," he added.

Bell said in an interview at Mountainview, N. J., that Colescott was aware of plans for the meeting. He denied the meeting was a joint Klan-Bund affair and added there was "absolutely no connection or link in any way, shape or form between the German-American Bund and the klan."

Bell estimated that two-thirds of those present were klansmen or klanswomen, and added:

"I thought I could change some of them (bund members) to become real Americans, but I doubt if I changed any."

Dies to Investigate Klan-Bund Activities

By the United Press.

ATLANTA, Aug. 30.—Chairman Dies (D., Texas), of the House said here today he would hold hearings in Newark on the Ku Klux Klan and any possible connection between it and the German-American Bund, because a recent joint meeting of New Jersey Klansmen and Bund members.

The Klan's Imperial Wizard James Colescott, suspended the New Jersey head of the Klan, but the latter refuses to abdicate pending a hearing.

Mr. Dies said he did not know whether the Klan would be investigated on a nationwide scale.

Wizard Denies Klan Alignment With Bund

ATLANTA—(AP)—Alignment of the Ku Klux Klan with the German-American Bund "couldn't be achieved any more than one with Communists and Negroes," James Colescott, the klan imperial wizard, said today.

Commenting on a klan rally at a bund camp at Andover, N. J., yesterday, Colescott said the klan had "denounced the bund and opposed it for years and had urged Congress to dissolve it . . . . Why, it would be suicide for anyone to attempt to ally the klan and the bund. At least 95 per cent of the klan membership would resign if such an attempt were made."

He said he considered selection of the bund camp for the klan rally "a grevious mistake" but that he had approved it after the lease was made because it contained a provision giving the klan complete control over the program.

TRIAL OF EX-CHIEF OF K. K. K. SET FOR NOVEMBER TERM

NOV 3 1940

(United Press)

Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 2.—Hiram Wesley Evans, national leader of the Ku Klux Klan when the hooded order was in its prime, goes on trial in federal court here this month, charged with mail fraud and violation of the Sherman anti-trust act.

Evans was Imperial Wizard of the Klan when the organization attained its peak as a political force. The government charges Evans used his political contacts to monopolize sale of asphalt to the Georgia highway department.

When Governor E. D. Rivers took office in 1937, he made Evans a colonel on his staff and he consulted frequently with him.

Evans organized the Southeastern Construction Company of Atlanta, principal function of which was the sale of emulsified asphalt.

In 1939, Evans retired from the K. K. K. throne and handed his office to James A. Colescott, former Ohio veterinarian. There was talk at the time that Evans had encountered trouble with his company, trouble that dated to a state legislative investigation of his commercial operations.

Evans told the investigating committee frankly how he represented four asphalt companies that often bid against each other in sales to the Georgia highway department. If any one of the four firms got the job, Evans said, he received "a normal sales profit."

Early this year, Evans was indicted on six counts with John Greer, clerk of the Georgia House of Representatives and former assistant purchasing agent for the highway department. The federal government accused them of operating a monopoly on asphalt sales by collusive bidding. Three national companies also were named in the indictments.

Anti-CIO Sentiment Is Linked To East Point Klan Flogging

Scottdale Worker Tells of Being Kidnaped and Beaten After Band Lures Him Into Car Which Another Witness Says Belonged to Cauthon.

By WILLARD COPE.

A definite tie between anti-CIO sentiment and one East Point Ku Klux Klan flogging was established yesterday in testimony given at the trial of Henry Cauthon on 16 counts of assault and battery. Two men—one of whom admitted he brought the complaint which led to the raping and beating of P. S. Toney, veteran employe of a Scottdale mill, and the other, the secretary of the East Point Klan, who said he watched the flogging—supplied the information.

Victim Paints Picture.

They were H. A. Guffin, Scottdale shoemaker and Baptist church deacon, and Luke L. Trimble, barber and keeper of the East Point Klan's records. The picture was filled in by the victim himself, who told graphically of his experiences on the night of August 1, 1938.

Meanwhile, in the course of the second day of the trial, additional evidence was offered that Cauthon participated both in flogging expeditions and actuall ashings, as his attorney, Reuben Garland, fought back stubbornly to break down the testimony.

Garland, after repeated warnings, was fined first one, then three and finally five dollars by Judge Hugh M. Dorsey for commenting on testimony of witnesses. The judge intimated, however, he would suspend this action. At one point the court smiled genially as Garland, apparently from habit, continued to say, "All right," in a satisfied way, after each answer which he approved.

Toney Called Organizer

Guffin said he went to the floor of the East Point klan at a meeting about two years ago "when John L. Lewis was causing all those murders and strikes in Kentucky" and told the Klansmen that Toney was very active in organizing a union at Scottdale.

Two weeks later—according to Secretary Trimble, who continued the chronology—two automobiles filled with East Point Klansmen, and including the defendant, carried out the capture of Toney and his lashing.

Guffin gave additional fragmentary information, when examined by Solicitor General John A. Boykin.

"You remember a deacons' meeting of the Scottdale Baptist church?" Boykin asked.

"Yes."

"Is Mr. Cothran a deacon?"

The witness replied affirmatively, and under further questioning said men named Robbins and Graham as well as himself were deacons. Then Boykin began:

"Do you remember a deacons' meeting when you pulled out a strap—?"

At this moment Garland leapt up, objecting to the question as irrelevant, and the solicitor general did not pursue it further.

The names Cothran, Robbins and Graham never have been mentioned in any investigation and there was nothing further brought out in the trial to identify them.

Toney, who gave his age as 39, said he had worked in the weaving department of the Scottdale mill since he was 14. He declared he was lured into the klan car, which Trimble swore belonged to Cauthon, by men who pretended they were officers interested in the Michigan license plate on his own automobile.

Scar Shown Jury.

He exhibited to the jury a wide scar on the right side of his abdomen and another on his head which he said caused him almost constant headaches. His back from about the middle to his knees was beaten, he said. About eight or nine men were immediately around him, some in hoods, when he was flogged at the East Point city dump, and about 20 others stood farther away, looking on.

One of his attackers told him, Toney testified:

"Now, I guess you'll let that damned union alone. We're going to break up all these damned unions."

Three men actually flogged him, Toney said, but he could not positively identify anyone. One wore a most awesome black hood, he declared, and stood by a tree as the victim, handcuffed, was thrown to the ground and held, his flesh exposed, for the lashing.

"I asked that man with the hood if he was going to kill me," Toney testified, "because at first I thought the handle of the whip was a knife. He said: 'We're going to come damned nigh it.' And they did come damned nigh it."

Guffin protested in his testimony that he did not ask for the flogging of Toney, but admitted meeting the Klan caravan and directing one car to Toney's house on the night of the flogging, two weeks after his going to the East Point Klan meeting. He also told the searchers that Toney had a foreign license plate, he testified.

Among other witnesses were Oscar and Levi Conkle, father and son, living at Cameron Park near Hapeville, who were lashed September 15 of last year. The elder Conkle submitted in evidence a bit of his own dried flesh about the size of a silver dollar which he said had been beaten from him by his attackers.

Trimble gave the clearest evidence thus far produced concerning the East Point Klan's definite anti-union attitude. Guffin, he testified, was admitted to the floor of the East Point Klan at one meeting.

CIO Adherent Taken.

"This man said there was a man named Toney who was creating a disturbance in Scottdale by trying to organize a union. He reported the matter for action."

"What was decided about it?" Boykin asked.

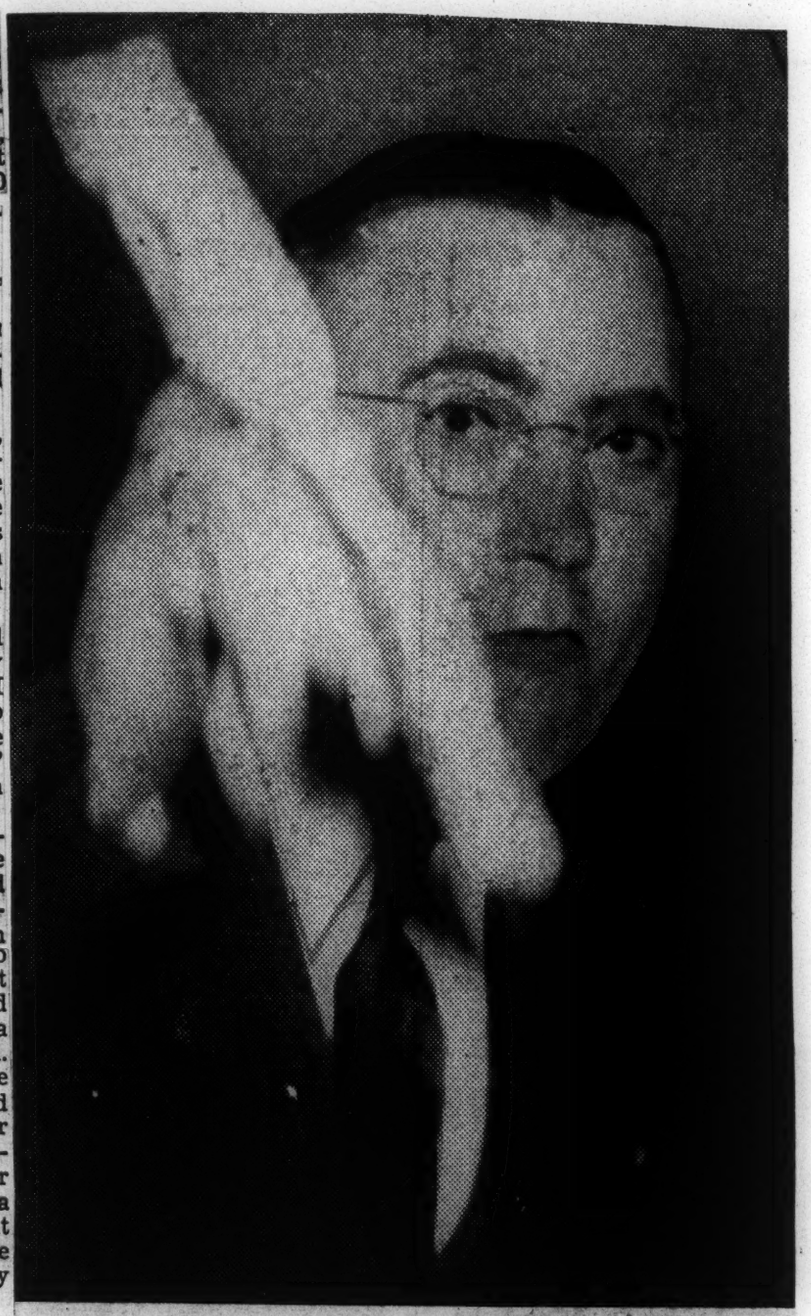
"One member, Walter Forster, said, 'Something should be done about this.'"

Soon afterward, Trimble continued, a party in two automobiles captured Toney, a CIO adherent, took him to the East Point city dump and flogged him until he was "in a serious condition—badly cut up in his hide, with lots of whelps."

Toney, a CIO adherent, took him to the East Point city dump and flogged him until he was "in a serious condition—badly cut up in his hide, with lots of whelps."

"Degree Work" Trip.

This party had been to Lithonia to "put on some degree work," and returning, stopped at Avondale. One car waited there and the other went to Scottdale and captured Toney, he said. The entire party consisted of Raymond Bryan, Forster, W. T. Walton, W. C. Bishop, Henry Cauthon, Dan Eidson, Floyd Lee and Trimble, the witness swore.



Constitution Staff Photo—Bill Wils

EAST POINT KLAN'S SECRETARY—Luke L. Trimble barber of Sylvan Hills, who yesterday told a superior court jury inside workings of the Klan's "secret committee" and gave the genesis on the Klan floor of the kidnaping and flogging of P. S. Toney, Scottdale CIO labor union adherent.

He said Cauthon, Walton, Forster and Bryan rode in Cauthon's tan Oldsmobile to "snatch" Toney, while Trimble waited with the others in a second machine.

"They were gone about 10 or 15 minutes," the Klan secretary replied to a question. "They came back with Toney and we went on to East Point."

Bryan Accused.

He testified two men held Toney while others flogged him. Trimble said he "believed" Bryan was one of those who wielded the whip and Forster "probably" was another, and that he couldn't remember any other actual lashers. Cauthon was present, Trimble declared, but the witness was unwilling to say that the defendant whipped Toney.

Testimony previously given to the grand jury was that Toney was told by one of his attackers he was "too active in the CIO," and another assailant was sworn to have commenced, "I'm an AFL man myself—I don't care for the CIO."

Trimble said he "heard afterward" that transportation of some sort had been furnished Toney for his return to Scottdale but he was not certain about it.

Flog Witnesses Sing and Pray, Conduct 'Trial'

Group on Eighth Floor of Courthouse Passes Time Away

By JACK SPALDING.

In the courtroom on the sixth floor the heavy whip that was found alongside the body of Ike Gaston lay on the table for all the world to see. Flashbulbs exploded in the expressionless face of Henry Cauthon, on trial on 16 counts of assault and battery. Flashbulbs popped in the cold faces of men who said they had been taken out in the woods and whipped.

On the eighth floor the strains of "Pass Me Not, Oh Gentle Savior" echoed through the cold marble halls.

The Rev. R. W. Justice, pastor of Harrison Road Baptist church, was leading song services for the defense witnesses.

Interrupted Divorce Court.

"They sang "In the Garden." They were singing "Throw Out the Lifeline" when a bailiff poked his head in the door and ordered silence. The hymns were interfering with divorce court proceedings next door.

So they prayed. Prayer was led by R. L. Baker, of the Church of Christ, East Point. The low voices of men and women murmured thanks to their Creator and asked his guidance in a stuffy courtroom. On a table was a checkerboard.

Two floor below, on another table, were two whips. One was used on Ike Gaston, the barber. Men on the witness stand spoke slowly and told how they had been taken into the woods and stripped. Then they were beaten. They eyed the whips. Ike Gaston's whip and the other.

Preacher Speaks.

After the prayers, the Rev. Robert O. Weaver, of the First Christian church of East Point, spoke to the defense witnesses. They played Chinese checkers. They talked. At noon they took up a collection and sent somebody out for sandwiches.

"All-day singing and dinner on the ground," they joked.

Two floors below a man who had been whipped refused to tell where he lived. He left Atlanta after he was flogged, and wanted to keep his present address a secret.

Upstairs a woman took a reporter aside and said, "I would like to write this story, but I can't. But you say the ghost of Ike Gaston may walk through the sixth floor, but he isn't walking up here. Don't forget to say that. We're all good people here."

Downstairs a man told how he was lashed and never reported it to police authorities.

"They told me I'd get worse if I did," he said.

Held Mock Trial

On the eighth floor defense witnesses, most of them character witnesses, whiled away their time as best they could. Cooped together in a small courtroom they sang and prayed and played checkers.

They held a mock murder trial. The Rev. Robert O. Weaver was judge. Mrs. Ruby McConnell acted as solicitor. Clarence J. Thompson was attorney for the defendant. It took them two hours to strike a jury.

On the sixth floor events moved swiftly. Defense Attorney Reuben Garland fought doggedly. Solicitor General John A. Boykin talked slowly and occasionally fingered the two whips. A reporter arrived from Chicago to cover the trial.

The defense witnesses were bored.

"Yes I shot my husband—with an insect gun," confessed the woman defendant on the eighth floor. "He died like the worm he was." The husband had burned down her fishpond.

The jury deliberated a few minutes and brought in a verdict of not guilty.

"Justifiable homicide," the foreman explained. "We didn't debate any longer because we didn't have enough money to buy lunch."

No Fun for Jury.

Downstairs the other jurymen squirmed and looked around. They ate and slept, closely guarded by deputy sheriffs. It was no fun for them.

Out in the halls boys sold sandwiches and soft drinks. Judge Cone came over from his traffic court and joined Judge Dorsey on the bench. Upstairs a woman gave a comic monologue. The defense witnesses laughed and applauded. She was good. She gave another.

Downstairs the court reporter fainted. Wild rumors ran through the building. Upstairs they heard he was dying and the trial would have to begin over again. That would mean extra days away from work, more hours sitting on hard benches with nothing to do. The defense witnesses were relieved when they heard his condition was not serious.

Downstairs men looked sullen when photographers shot them. Upstairs they smiled and willingly posed for pictures.

"We're all good people," said one of the group.

KLAN BANS MASKS FROM ITS REGALIA

Orders Issued by the National Officers Also Restrict the Burning of 'Fiery Crosses'

By The Associated Press.

ATLANTA, April 17—National officers of the Ku Klux Klan decreed unmasking for the hooded order today while the trial of seventeen men in connection with the night-rider floggings and terrorism began here.

James A. Colescott, Imperial Wizard, after a five-day conference with the Imperial Kloncilium (directorate), issued edicts banning the peep-holed white visor from Klan regalia and restricting parades and the burning of the "fiery cross."

Almost simultaneously with Mr. Colescott's announcement the Fulton County Superior Court opened the trial of Henry Cauthon, first of seventeen members and former members of a suburban Klan unit to face a jury after a grand jury investigation of several weeks resulting from the flogging death of Isaac Gaston, a barber.

Cauthon, a filling station operator, was brought to trial on a misdemeanor charge of assault and battery. He was described in early testimony as the "boss of the wrecking crew" in a long series of floggings.

W. C. Bishop testified that he made the whip with which he said Cauthon flogged at least two of sixteen persons whipped in and near suburban East Point. Bishop admitted accompanying Cauthon on nightriding expeditions and said the three-inch wide whip was kept at the Klan Hall when not in use.

He told the jury that after one flogging expedition, on which he did not go, Cauthon told him "they had to stop at a creek and wash the blood off the whip."

Mr. Colescott denied that the Klan edicts were prompted by the flog investigations and asserted that the current trial had nothing whatever to do with it.

The new show of faces did not mean that there would be a change in the Klan policy of secrecy concerning membership lists, Mr. Colescott stated.

Klan regalia parades were limited to those with specific permission from high Klan officers and local authorities. The burning of crosses with require permission of Klan officers and owners of any private property on which a cross might be lighted.

Here is the official description of the regalia to be worn:

"The official costume of this order shall be a white robe of lightweight cotton cloth, made with cape of same material, and of proper length, with white girdle around waist and insignia of this order worn on the left breast. This shall be known as the klansman's robe or costume.

"The helmet, which may be worn with the official costume, shall be made of same material as the robe and reinforced with buckram. It shall be collapsible, with a flap attached to the brim at the back, and when worn shall be of a cone shape, with the flap covering the back of the neck, but without a front flap or visor."

THE KLAN AND FLOGGINGS

One of the first agencies publicly to offer its aid to Fulton (Atlanta) County, Ga., authorities when a series of floggings were uncovered in suburban Atlanta was the Ku Klux Klan. That fact appears suspicious in the light of subsequent developments. Klan members in the area where the floggings took place were those who were doing the flogging. Could it have been that the parent organization wished to have an opportunity to direct the investigators along blind trails to cover its own members?

Now the Klan, through wizened Colescott, has threatened to suspend the Klan unit responsible for the floggings. That also looks fishy, more like a cover-up move than anything else. It is well known that the Klan as a whole indorsed floggings and mob actions in times past. Neither Klans nor leopards can change their spots by merely saying they do not exist. The Klan was the father of the mob spirit within its own organization and is today as much responsible for it as it was in the past before the so-called "reorganization."

The plain truth of the matter is that the Klan of modern times was organized and managed by the most contemptible horde of corrupt scoundrels ever fraudulently to deprive an American citizen of his dollars and his decency. The men who manage it today may be well meaning individuals, but they have a rotten heritage and no good can come of it.

Alabama rid itself of the foul disease known as the Klan by unmasking it. Georgia should do the same, even if it is necessary to give a public pension to Colescott to take the place of his present livelihood. After all, there are many almost respectable citizens who are supported out of that portion of the public weal devoted to maintaining the penal system.

Flogging Witness Warned in Note

The band of night-riding terrorists who spread fear through south Fulton county for three years from 1937 to 1939 by flogging more than 50 persons must be going soft, a veteran county law enforcement officer remarked yesterday.

His remark followed the finding of a crude note pinned to the front door of the home of D. M. Harper, whose testimony recently aided in the conviction of George Cameron, an East Point Klansman, on charges of flogging two persons—one of whom was Harper.

The note, printed on ruled paper and unsigned, was contained in an envelope addressed to "D. M." It read: "We mean for you to move out of East Point." The message was turned over to Solicitor General John A. Boykin.

Klansman Cawthon Described As Leader Of 'Wrecking Crew'

Fellow Members Of Order Testify East Point Man Directed Activities

ATLANTA, (AP)—The state rested the first of its flogging cases in Fulton superior court Saturday after a half-dozen victims of night-rider terrorism had identified Henry Cawthon as a member of a group that lashed him.

Cawthon, young red-haired operator of a suburban service station, and first of 16 men indicted in the whippings to stand trial, previously had been named by two fellow-members of the East Point unit of the Ku Klu Klan as "boss" of a "wrecking crew" that terrified Atlanta suburban sections.

Immediately before resting its case, the state announced abandonment of four of 16 counts against Cawthon in the wake of Floyd Lee's unexpected refusal to testify on grounds he might incriminate himself. Lee was named by witnesses as a lash wielder.

One of the last witnesses to testify for the state was Roy Davis, an instructor at the Georgia Tech evening school and a friend of Cawthon. Davis declared he was saved from a beating in 1938 by Cawthon's intervention.

He said Cawthon related to him he had told members of a group who planned to whip Davis that "I know about his affairs — he does the best he can."

"Later on when I heard about these whippings, I told Henry I wished he wouldn't get mixed up in them," Davis testified. "I told him he was likely to get in trouble. Henry told me I would be surprised at the ones back of it all."

Davis further testified he once had been a sheriff's deputy and had lent Cawthon his badge, which Cawthon afterward asserted had been lost. He also said that he once saw a leather whip in Cawthon's automobile.

He added he had overheard a conversation in Cawthon's garage in which Cawthon said "something about a man who had gotten drunk and wrecked his car" and that Cawthon had added "he guesed they would have to get the 'wrecking crew' after him."

"That Is the Man!"

Earlier Saturday, Mrs. Margaret Andrews named Cawthon as the man who threatened to flog her 65-year-old father, W. L. Allen.

Pointing to Cawthon, the young woman said: "That is the man who warned my daddy that if he didn't get the Negro off our place he would take my daddy out and flog him."

Allen previously had testified a group of night riders led him from his rural home and lashed him about 25 strokes.

A 50-year-old resident of nearby Stonewall, George W. Wright, told of a whipping administered to him by men who had whisked him from his home in an automobile bearing the Fulton county label on its side.

He described the beating he received with these words: "They sure made a mess out of me."

Meanwhile, trial of Dan Eidson, another under indictment, was removed from this week's trial calendar, to be reset later.

STATE RESTS ITS CASE AGAINST KLAN SUSPECT

'Boss' Of 'Wrecking Crew' Identified In Court

4-21-40

ATLANTA, April 20. — (AP) — The state rested the first of its flogging cases in Fulton Superior Court Saturday after a half dozen victims of night rider terrorism had identified Henry Cawthon as a member of a group that lashed them.

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Earlier, Mrs. Margaret Andrews named Cawthon as the man who threatened to flog her 65-year-old father, W. L. Allen.

Pointing to Cawthon, the young woman said: "That is the man who warned my daddy that if he didn't get that negro off our place he would take my daddy out and flog him."

TERRIFIED KLAN VICTIM BRANDS DEACON FLOGGER

Kidnaped and 'Half Killed,' He Tells Court.

BY MARCIA WINN.

Atlanta, Go., April 19 [Special].—The state of Georgia is taking its first official cognizance in many years of the fact that the Ku Klux Klan still is a hooded menace.

The kansmen have discarded horses for automobiles. They wear their white robes, marked by a scarlet cross, only in private or on "warning" parades, but the cross of fire still burns at night, and the klansmen still weild the lash on nocturnal floggings more blood curdling than the most insane fancy of the Marquis de Sade.

4-20-40

Lashes Shown in Court.

Two of the klan's lashes, wielded by what is known as their "wrecking" [or whipping] crew, lay on a table in Fulton county Superior court here today. One of heavy black leather, four inches wide, is doubled into a four foot band and welded by iron bands to a heavy wooden handle. It was found on March 8 near the dead, mangled body of Ike Gaston, an East Point, Ga., barber.

This strap and its mate rest beside some parchment-like scraps. The scrops are skin, torn by the lash from the back of a klan victim who lived to save them. Straps and skin alike are evidence now in the state's trial of Henry Cauthon on 16 counts of assault and battery.

Baptist Deacon Accused.

Cauthon is a red headed, pinch-nosed Baptist deacon with a long jaw and a precise mouth who, in 1939, headed the K. K. K. wrecking crew for the East Poinn klavern, one of the wealthiest and oldest klan chapters in the country.

Indictments have been returned against 15 others, but Cauthon alone is on trial now, with 16 floggings charged against him.

Until Ike Gaston was found dead no one paid much attention to the floggings. "They were something you heard about remotely and forgot," a courtroom spector explained today. Most of the victims were too penniless, too frightened, too steeped in the ignorance which pervades parts of the deep south, too unversed in the pursuit of justice, to seek legal recourse.

Even the Wibard Is Upset.

Now even the imperial wizard of the K. K. K., James A. Colescott, is full of timely wrath. Yesterday he banned hooded masks which the avenging demons of Eost Point wore. He termed the floggings the work of an "outlaw minority," swooped down to the klavern korner there and scooped up all the robes, fiery crosses and records, including its charter. Now, he says, it is no more.

A long file of victims went to the witness box today to tell a jury of the klan's depredations. Some knew why they were flogged, such as Grady Kent, the fat Church of God preacher who got 30 lashes because, he testified, the floggers said, "We don't like that racket, all those carrin's on in your church, and we're gonna get rid of it."

Joe Otwell was accused of "cussin' your wife and children when they go to Sunday school," thereby earning 28 lashes.

Victim Taken from Home.

Others could advance no explanation as they blurted out their wretched testimony. Such a one was Doc F. Floyd, 23 years old. His story, told with frequent admonitions from Judge Hugh M. Dorsey, former governor, to "tell it all," was:

"Somebody come to the door and knocked. I went to open it. Two men stood there with guns. They said, 'Come on out; we got you.' I said, 'I ain't done nothin.' They said, 'You git on out here.'

"They piled me and Hughie Brannon [flogged with him] into a car full of men. They took us out beyond the creosote mine. They told me to git on out of the car and pull off my clothes. They throwed me down; one of them sat on my head. One whupped me. All the rest had guns, about 15 of them, and stood around. When they got thru with me they said: 'Now we want you to see what we're going to do to this one [Brannon].'

Ordered to Leave Town.

"They like to beat him to death. They stomped him in the face. They said, 'Now git away and out of this town before 6 o'clock.'

"Did you?" asked Solicitor General John A. Boykin.

"Naw, sir. We couldn't even get home that night."

Cauthon, he testified, was one of the floggers. Asked why he didn't say so sooner, to Cauthon's face, he replied, "I was skeered. That man done take me out and half killed me. I was skeered."

"Saints" Heal His Wounds.

Brother Grady Kent described the after effects of his flogging as: "You could take the meat off my back. Those two men raised whelps half an inch high."

"Do you have any scars?" Boykin asked. "Naw, I haven't a one," the reverend said benignly. "A number of the saints gathered together and prayed for me and I was healed completely."

Police Told Negro 'Klan' Uses Lash

Macon Telegraph

DEC 30 1940

Police picked up a half dozen Negroes last night in an investigation of alleged "Negro Klan" activities affecting the Negro proprietor of a Bay street restaurant.

Charles Cleveland, the restaurant operator, complained he had been threatened by a group which, police said, called themselves the "Negro Ku Klux Klan."

The "klan" members met near the restaurant and every customer entering Cleveland's place had to pay 50 cents or take 50 lashes from the group. Officers B. B. McGahee and O. P. McDaniel, said Cleveland told them.

Cleveland fired his pistol in an effort to "run 'em away," the officers were also told.

Suspects were charged with loitering and disorderly conduct and Cleveland was charged with shooting in the city.

Court Probes Klan 'Racket'

DEC 31 1940

Activities of an alleged "Negro Ku Klux Klan" were probed in a recorder's court hearing yesterday and resulted in fines of from $5.75 to $25.75 on disorderly conduct charges for a dozen Negro defendants.

Macon Telegraph

The arrests weer made by Officers B. B. McGahee and O. P. McDaniel on complaint of Charles Cleveland, Negro operator of a restaurant and pool hall on Bay street.

Macon Dai

Cleveland said a group of Negroes "calling themselves the klan" molested customers entering his place, Police Officers McGahee and McDaniel reported. The members of the organization demanded persons entering Cleveland's place to pay 50 cents or take 50 lashes, the police officers said Cleveland told them.

A fight resulted over the organization's demands, witnesses testified.

Recorder George M. Nottinghan imposed fines in cases resulting from the fight.

KU KLUX KLAN- 1940

GOERGIA

Constitution 4-10-40

Constitution Staff Photo—Bill Mas

OLD AND NEW—The "old and the new" full regalia of the Ku Klux Klan is depicted above in two poses by Imperial Wizard J. A. Colescott. His robe is red while those of ordinary Klansmen are white. Colescott said many messages poured into Klan headquarters approving the edict to unmask permanently all members of the organization.

Klan Is Deluged By Approval of Ban on Masking

Constitution

Messages Pour in From All Over U. S., Colescott Says.

4-19-40

Ku Klux Klan headquarters in Atlanta yesterday was deluged with telegrams and phone calls approving the issuance of edicts eliminating the use of masks and restricting the burning of fiery crosses, J. A. Colescott, imperial wizard, said last night.

Messages came from all parts of the country, and at least a third of them were from non-members of the Klan, Colescott asserted.

"Everyone seems to agree," he added, "that the Klan mask has no place in our organization today. So far, only one member has voiced opposition to discarding it."

Colescott said the copies of the edicts were forwarded in the mails yesterday to Klan units in various sections of the nation and reiterated that "any Klansman disobeying these orders will be dealt with severely."

Flogged Man's Daughter Tells Jurors of Ruse

Constitution

Alleen Toney Says Woman Informed Her Cauthon Was 'Boy Friend'

4-20-40

Young and pretty Alleen Toney, of Scottdale, easily the belle of the flogging trial witnesses, told the jury yesterday of her brief career as a cosmetics salesman.

It began April 5, she testified, when Mrs. Ruby Hines McConnell, investigator for Defense Attorney Reuben Garland, came to her home and gave her a case of samples and told her to take orders on a 40 per cent commission basis.

The young witness, arrayed in a smart red jacket which set off her light hair, dark bright eyes and full lips, said she gave Mrs. McConnell several references, whereupon the visitor obligingly waived the $5 deposit that she said normally was required.

Never Returned.

The newly invested young merchant then sallied forth among the neighbors and obtained four or five orders for face powder and other feminine beauty aids. Mrs. McConnell, however, did not return to receive the orders—and yesterday Alleen found out why.

It was all a ruse— a "scheme," as Attorney Garland described it to Judge Hugh M. Dorsey—to gain admittance to Alleen's house so she might talk to her father P. S. Toney, a union organizer for the CIO, about whether he could identify Henry Cauthon, Garland's client, as one of the men who helped to kidnap and flog Toney August 1, 1938.

"We don't deny it," said Garland. "It was done with a purpose."

Mentioned Floggings.

While she was in the house Mrs. McConnell, who was accompanied by another investigator, Ernie Akridge, mentioned the floggings, volunteered information that she once had been a newspaper reporter and said she had believed "all this was publicity."

Also, declared Alleen, the woman visitor said she wanted to know what the facts were because she intended to "bring it up before the Woman's Club and the Eastern Star."

Her father didn't talk much, despite all this, Alleen declared, whereupon Mrs. McConnell opened the sample case and brought out two photographs of Henry Cauthon.

"He's my boy friend," Alleen said she explained to her and Toney. "There are some who say he's connected with these floggings, and I want you to look at these pictures and see if he's one of them."

Toney obliged, according to his daughter, and remarked:

"Looks like I've seen him before."

Soon afterward the visitors departed.

Flogged at Dump.

Toney, who testified Thursday said he was taken in a "tan Oldsmobile" from Scottdale to the East Point city dump for the flogging. Solicitor General John A. Boykin put into the record a certificate of ownership of such a car ascribed to "Cauthon and Davis" and signed by Cauthon.

Another of yesterday's witnesses, Melvin Medaris, 205½ Peters street, described the T. E. Young kidnaping of July 23, 1939 and testified that if Cauthor

"wasn't one of the men I saw i captors then was due to fea: "A was his twin brother." He sai man would say anything at a time like that."

that after the flogging investiga- Garland made every effo tion started he was taken to At- torney Garland's office in the apprehend the attackers of G. W Candler building, where he was Wright, cripple who was flogged confronted with Cauthon. June 22, 1938, and served Wright He declared his failure to iden- without charging a fee, it was tify Cauthon as one of Young's brought out in Wright's examina-

The Guest Writer

Unmasking The Klan

(From The New York Herald Tribune)

The late Oliver Herford once told a prominent publisher that he would co-operate with him only in the matter of his self-destruction. In much the same spirit we offer our compliments to the Ku-Klux Klan on the occasion of the order from its imperial wizard that hereafter its members shall not wear masks and shall get permission from both Klan officers and private property owners before burning fiery crosses. If this order is made effective we can see the end of the organization.

Here in the North most of us have forgotten that the Klan still exists. So it is rather startling to learn that in and about Atlanta, its traditional headquarters, it has been busy of late to the point of entanglement with the law. A grand jury investigation into the death of a local barber by flogging has resulted in the indictment of 17 members and former members of a suburban Klan unit. The first of them was put on trial just as the imperial kloncilium handed down its unmasking edict.

Mr. James A. Colescott, the imperial wizard, has assured the public there is no significance in the contretemps. As to that, one can judge for one's self. We prefer to think that Isaac Gaston, the barber who was flogged to death, did not die in vain in that his fate has induced the Klan to commit suicide. For if Klansmen may no longer hide their identities they will lack the courage to commit atrocities, and the whole object of membership will be destroyed. Or are we in error in refusing to believe that men with their faces exposed like to parade abroad in white nightgowns?

Incidentally, if the case or cases of the 17 under indictment in Atlanta should reach the Supreme Court of the United States, which seems highly improbable, may we hope that Mr. Justice Black will not participate in its decision?

Nashville Tenn. Banner
April 26, 1940

Klansman Given Maximum Penalty On Flogging Count

Atlanta, Ga., April 26—(AP)—Henry Cauthon, Ku Klux Klansman who took part in a terrorization campaign against Negroes and whites in an Atlanta suburb, faced the maximum penalty for a misdemeanor today—one year on the chain gang plus six months in jail. He also must pay a $1,000 fine.

Cauthon was the first of twelve klansmen indicted for the terror to be tried. He was found guilty by a jury on one count of assault and battery—representing one flogging. Sixteen counts were dismissed. He was convicted of flogging P. S. Toney, an organizer for the Congress of Industrial Organization's Textile Workers Union.

Cauthon was sentenced immediately when the jury returned its verdict. His attorney gave notice of appeal and he was released in $5,000 bond.

Cauthon operates the garage in East Point, a suburb. Members of the Klan testified against him. The victims described having been taken from their homes at night and flogged with a metal studded leather strap for a variety of alleged offenses, from permitting a Negro to sleep in the kitchen of the victim's farm home to an expression of disapproval of children going to Sunday school.

SENTENCE FARMER AS KLANSMAN

Courier

ATLANTA, Ga., July 11—Another local Ku Klux Klansman, W. T. Walton, erstwhile farmer residing on the outskirts of the city, was sentenced Wednesday by Superior Court Judge N. S. Hendrix following his conviction as a participant in the mass floggings of both colored and white citizens that for nearly two years spread a reign of terror through a number of suburban communities.

Found guilty on three separate counts and still to be tried on as many more charges, Walton was fined $3,000 and sentenced to four and a half years at hard labor. He will begin service of the sentence pending trial in the other cases.

Two Klan Chiefs Fired For Rally with Bund

By the Associated Press.

ATLANTA, Aug. 23. — James Colescott, Imperial Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, announced today that he had ordered immediate removal of two Klan officials as the result of a Klan meeting in a German-American Bund camp at Andover, N. J., last Sunday.

He named the officials as Arthur H. Bell of Bloomfield, N. J., Grand Dragon of New Jersey, and A. M. Young of Newark, Grand Klaliff.

Special to the World-Telegram.

MOUNTAIN VIEW, N. J., Aug. 23.—There is no connection between the German-American Bund and the Ku Klux Klan, despite the joint meeting of the two organizations last Sunday at the Bund's Camp Nordland in Andover, according to Arthur Bell of Bloomfield, Grand Giant of the New Jersey Klan, who said last night that he and the rest of the Klan were opposed to the Bund.

"I thought I could change some of them (Bund members) to become real Americans, but I doubt if I changed any," he said. Mr. Bell scoffed at reports that Imperial Wizard James Colescott of Atlanta, Ga. was planning to depose him because of Sunday's meeting.

KLANS, BUNDS NEVER AGREE SAYS KKK HEAD

Chicago Defender

ATLANTA, Aug. 29 (ANP) In the wake of the widespread publicity given last week's "Americanization" rally sponsored by the Ku Klux Klan and held in a New Jersey German-American Bund camp, James A. Colescott, Klan imperial wizard, pooh-poohed the idea of any merger of the two organizations.

Such a merger, he said, "couldn't be achieved any more than one with Communists and Negroes." He said he thought holding the New Jersey rally at the bund camp was "a grievous mistake" but that he had approved it after learning the Klan would have complete control over the program.

Colescott said the Klan had "denounced the bund and opposed it for years and had urged congress to dissolve it." He continued: "It would be suicide for anyone to attempt to ally the Klan and the bund. At least 95 per cent of the Klan membership would resign if such an attempt were made."

Five Witnesses Name Cameron As a Flogger

The Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

East Point Awning Worker Under Indictment on Five Counts.

DEC 4 1940

George Cameron, awning worker and former treasurer of the East Point Ku Klux Klan, was named by five persons yesterday as having participated in alleged Klan floggings in south Fulton county.

Cameron, who went on trial on a five-count indictment, was identified by D. M. Harper, an alleged victim; Mrs. W. H. Ables, wife of an alleged victim; J. W. Wilkes, another alleged victim, and W. C. Bishop and L. L. Trimble, alleged accomplices.

Bishop said Cameron participated in the flogging of E. K. Rammage, Atlanta printer, April 30, 1938, and Louis H. Brown, June 4, 1937. Trimble substantiated Bishop's testimony in connection with the Brown case.

Mrs. Ables stuck to her identification of the defendant as one of three men who came to her house on August 11, 1939, and carried her husband off despite a determined effort by Defense Attorney Harold Sheats to make her admit that she was not positive of it until after a police officer had pointed out Cameron.

Harper, who was beaten July 7, 1939, testified he was positive in his identification, while Wilkes, who successfully fled from the floggers, pointed out the defendant as one of those who came to his home and attempted to force him into an automobile.

The case is expected to go to the jury today. Assistant Solicitors Quincy Arnold and Daniel Duke said the state would rest its case before noon. Judge John D. Humphries is presiding.

Cauthon Alibi Witnesses Deny State Evidence

Defense in Flog Trial Seeks To Impeach Counter-Testimony.

By WILLARD COPE.

A day of continuous attack on state's evidence by Defense Attorney Reuben Garland brought these developments yesterday in the trial of Henry Cauthon on nine remaining charges of assault and battery in connection with floggings around East Point:

1. Alibi witnesses testified to Cauthon's being at Crawford Long Memorial hospital, where a relative was ill, for hours on the night of June 22, 1938, when the prosecution contends he took part in the flogging of George W. Wright.

2. Numerous witnesses gave testimony as to the alleged poor character of three state's witnesses, Tom Parker, W. C. Bishop and James W. Wilkes, whom the defense was striving to impeach.

Conkle Attacked.

3. Associates of O. N. Conkle, a carpenter, one of the persons named as a flogging victim in the indictment, expressed doubt he had been attacked September 15, 1939, and told of a fall in which he was injured.

4. Deputy Sheriffs W. E. Johnson and Ralph Grimes testified they saw Assistant Solicitor General Daniel Duke last Saturday, in the door of the courtroom during a recess, ask John Cannon, Negro prisoner, if he could identify "that red-headed man there with glases," who was Cauthon, sitting at the defense table.

Say Medaris Was Calm.

5. Witnesses said Melvin Medaris, state's witness, was calm in Garland's office when he was declared to have made statements tending to clear Cauthon of connection with the P. S. Toney kidnaping and flogging. Medaris had testified he was so frightened he "signed anything" when he saw Cauthon there.

Garland drew from a witness, Sidney Mahler, that Luke Trimble, East Point Klan secretary, a state's witness, said he was "crazy from all this" and threatened suicide. He also elicited testimony that witnesses in the grand jury flogging probe were under stress for many hours.

Scheduled trial of Raymond Bryan on 13 flogging charges was taken from the calendar. The Cauthon trial resumes at 9 o'clock this morning.

Cauthon Opens Flogging Case Defense Today

Counsel Says 300 Witnesses Summoned for Klan Defendant.

Red-headed Henry Cauthon, East Point garage operator, whom the state contends was in charge of a Ku Klux Klan "wrecking crew" that flogged numerous persons in and about East Point, will have his inning in court today.

Trial of Cauthon on charges of assault and battery growing out of the flogging outrages will be resumed in Fulton superior court at 9 o'clock this morning with the presentation of Cauthon's defense by his chief counsel, Reuben Garland.

The state rested its case Saturday afternoon after four days of presenting evidence linking the garageman with the Klan floggings.

While Cauthon was named in a 16-count indictment, Solicitor General John A. Boykin moved Saturday to abandon four of the counts because Floyd Lee, a former "wrecking crew" boss refused to turn state's evidence.

Just what line of defense Garland will use is not known but at the start of the trial last Wednesday he said he had summoned more than 300 witnesses, of whom 200 are said to be character witnesses.

During cross-examination of state's witnesses last week, Garland consistently sought to cast an air of doubt about the testimony of witnesses who identified Cauthon as having participated in some particular flogging.

However, the state, through numerous witnesses, both floggers and victims, identified Cauthon as boss of the "wrecking crew" in 1939 and as a participant in several floggings.

Boykin and Assistant Solicitor Daniel Duke are representing the state at the trial before Judge Hugh M. Dorsey.

Told Cauthon Of Flog Perils, Friend Asserts

Roy Davis Testifies He Saw Belt; State Rests Case.

By WILLARD COPE.

A witness who said he regarded Henry Cauthon as one of his best friends testified yesterday that, when he warned Cauthon he would "surely get in trouble" if he took part in floggings, Cauthon replied: "You'd be surprised at the ones who are back of all this."

Continuing his recital, the witness, Roy Davis, automobile parts salesman and a motor instructor in the Georgia Tech evening school, declared Cauthon told him of saving him from a flogging in June, 1938. He said Cauthon at another time declared a deputy's badge Davis lent him had "come in handy on seevral occasions"; that he had seen a leather belt about 36 inches long, without a handle, in Cauthon's automobile, and that after an unidentified drunk driver had wrecked an automobile, Cauthon observed:

"I guess we'll have to get the wrecking crew and straighten him out. We're not going to allow things like that to go on."

The state, represented by Solicitor General John A. Boykin and his assistant, Daniel Duke, rested its case in 16 assault and battery charges against Cauthon shortly after 2 o'clock. The trial had been in progress since 9:30 o'clock Wednesday morning.

Defense Attorney Reuben Garland immediately launched into argument attacking each of the counts of the long indictment. Judge Hugh M. Dorsey, presiding in Fulton superior court, released the jury to their quarters until tomorrow morning and heard the arguments of both sides in his library.

The state abandoned four counts, involving the beatings of J. T. Fugua, Bert Harris, W. L. Pennington and L. G. Rainwater, because Floyd Lee, former "wrecking crew boss," declined to turn state's evidence as had been expected by Boykin. Trial will resume on the remaining counts.

Further testimony that Cauthon took part in the wave of flogging outrages was presented by state's witnesses during the day. Just before the close Boykin offered in evidence a written oath signed by Cauthon when he was made a special deputy sheriff March 31, 1938. It was pointed out by a spokesman for the sheriff's office that Cauthon at that time was operating a junk yard and posted $1,000 bond. He did not seek to renew the commission when it expired eight months later.

Cauthon Named.

Cauthon was named by Mrs. Margaret Andrews, daughter of 65-year-old W. L. Allen, flog victim, formerly of Oakland City, as having come to the Allen home and warned her father to move a Negro from his premises "or they would take my daddy out." Later, Allen was flogged.

Use by his attackers of two automobiles with Fulton county emblems was sworn to by another victim, G. W. Wright, who said they tried to dispossess him from a house near Stonewall. Wright said he had but recently been taken from a plaster cast after an accident in which both legs were broken and his spine permanently injured. The floggers represented themselves as officers, he said.

The witness swore he recognized three men whom he called Herb Eidson, George Whitehead and "Shorty" Andrews. Boykin caused him to identify Eidson and Whitehead as "county officers," and Andrews as an East Point policeman.

Cauthon was named also by two Negro victims, George Grooms and John Cannon. A white man, Tom Parker, now serving a term for wife-beating, said Cauthon and a companion threatened him in February, 1939, and that he was flogged in June.

WHIPPED FOR CURSE, KLAN VICTIM SAYS

Night Terror Is Revealed At Atlanta Trial

ATLANTA, Ga., April 19.—(UP)—Joe Otwell, resident of the Atlanta suburb where a Ku Klux Klan "wrecking crew" had enforced vigilante rule with a flesh-searing leather strap, Friday described 10 blows a night rider gang gave him because he alleged he had cursed his wife and children for going to Sunday School.

Otwell testified in the trial of Henry Cawthon, red-haired garage operator in the Atlanta suburb of East Point, charged with assault and battery.

Witnesses stated Cawthon's automobile was used to abduct Otwell for the flogging.

W. R. Jackson, while he was an employe in Cawthon's East Point garage, was a victim in the series of floggings that terrorized the suburb for more than two years. Cawthon, Jackson testified, told him to repair an automobile that stopped in front of the garage. Occupants of the auto grabbed Jackson, drove to a woods and lashed him.

ATLANTA WRITER SAYS KLAN MUST LEAVE GEORGIA

Columnist Deplores Recent Floggings in Talk Before Conference

Tarleton Collier, Atlanta columnist, in a speech before the Welfare Conference Tuesday morning, declared, "A person cannot feel intellectually clean to recognize he comes from a state where a great part of it is under arbitrary martial law, where tomorrow begins a series of trials for the notorious floggings and where the fiery cross of the Klans still burn.

"The Klan (Ku Klux Klan) is a product of Georgia, but I'm not exactly proud of it," he said. He then proceeded to explain the "inner klan" within the klan "which ceremoniously parades the streets." He said the inner klan is more of the Nazi type.

"The time has come when we must realize the klan must go from Georgia," not only the titular names but from the "hearts and minds and souls of the people."

He declared the entrenched political machines and the Klan go together, to "perpetuate and maintain the status quo."

Mrs. Carl V. Stafford, president of the Tennessee League of Women Voters, described as active in the move to abolish poll taxes, discussed "Apathy of Citizenship in the South." She said, "Does not the lack of citizenship point to deficiency of education in the South? When will we learn to differentiate between what is controversy and what is progress? How shall we obtain efficient government if the citizenry doesn't express its desires? It is increasingly imperative for citizenship to be more articulate."

Mason Smith, associate editor of the Waco (Tex.) Messenger, declared, "Application of democracy by the Negro in the South is of more potential value than by the white persons in the South . . . because, white supremacy has so long drugged the effectiveness of the whites." He struck sharply at the poll tax, for depriving so many of the rights of voting, and primary laws of the South, which keep the Negro from having an active part in choosing of officials.

THREE VICTIMS WHITE, KILLED BY KU KLUXERS

Put Heat on Senator Barkley to Bring Up Anti-Lynching Bill

SEP 14 1940

LA GRANGE, Ga. (Special) — Georgia this week made it five for 1940.

With the brutal lynching of Austin Callaway, 16 - year - old schoolboy, by a mob of a half dozen men here Sunday morning, the total of lynchings for the first eight months of the year reached five, but strange as it may seem only two of the victims were Negroes.

The Rawls woman, and Ford were snatched from their parked car on the outskirts of Atlanta on March 2 and beaten to death by members of the Ku Klux Klan. Gaston was killed under similar circumstances five days later, also in Atlanta. All three were white.

Williams, a member of the N.A.A.C.P., working in Tennessee among Negro voters, was beaten to death, then hurled into the river near Brownsville, Tenn., June 20, and now Georgia steps back into the picture with the lynching of young Callaway.

In a statement to The Amsterdam News Monday afternoon, Walter White, executive secretary of the N.A.A.C.P. stated that he had directed a letter to Senate Majority Leader Alben L. Barkley, strongly urging that some definite action be taken on the anti-lynching bill before Congress adjourns. Sen. Barkley is already on record with a promise to see that the bill is voted on this session.

In his letter Mr. White called attention to the Tennessee situation, explaining that neither the state or federal authorities had done anything about the Brownsville case, despite the fact that officials of the association had furnished them with the names of at least 13 members of the mob that lynched young Williams. And despite Tennessee's Senator Kellar's statement that his state could and would stop lynching.

Mr. White also told Senator Barkley that the country is fully aware of the importance of preparing the defenses of this nation against its enemies from without, but that it is equally important to put an end to Hitlerism and bigotry within our own boundaries. This newest lynching, he said, makes it imperative that Congress remain in session until an anti-lynching bill is passed.

In describing the Calloway lynching Chief of Police J. E. Matthews said about a half dozen masked men, at least one of whom was armed, stormed the jail and forced the keeper, at gun's point to unlock the prisoner's cell.

Shortly after Calloway was taken from his cell a party discovered him on a lonely road eight miles from town fatally wounded with bullets in his [illegible]. He died a few hours later in a hospital.

Police record showed the victim had been arrested Saturday afternoon and lodged in jail following a report that he had attacked a white woman.

Colored residents in the section of Minden are concerned over the fate of R. L. Jones, 24-year-old laborer in the paper mill at Springhill, La., near here, whose disappearance is whispered about as a lynching. According to available information, Jones was in bed with his brother and cousin on the night of Wednesday, Aug. 28, when he was awakened by the sheriff and two other white men who said they wanted to talk with him. Jones was carried away by the trio and hasn't been seen since then.

When Jones failed to return, his relatives contacted the sheriff who named three towns where the young man might be. They investigated and found nothing of him.

The fear has been expressed that Jones has been made a victim of the new silent lynching technique now prevalent in the South.

Mr. White said the N. A. A. C. P. is investigating seven other cases in which Negroes have disappeared, when he was told of the case of Jones.

Those killed were:
Sarah Rawls, 19 years old.
Denton Ford, 21 years old.
Ike Gaston, age unknown.
Elbert Williams, 19 years old.
Austin Callaway, 16 years old.

Two Floggers Are Denied New Trials

NOV 10 1940

Judge Walter C Hendrix, Saturday, denied new trials for two of the men convicted in the south Fulton Ku Klux Klan floggings in 1937 and 1938.

Judge Hendrix overruled motions made by Raymond Bryant, who was given the maximum misdemeanor sentence on two counts, and Walter Forster, who was convicted on one of nine charges and sentenced to a maximum of one year on public works, six months in jail and a $1,000 fine.

Arguments on the motions were made a month ago and the new trial pleas were resisted by Solicitor General John Boykin and his staff. Bryant's attorney said he would appeal Judge Hendrix's ruling to the higher courts.

Another accused flogger, Floyd I. Lee, of East Point, is scheduled to go on trial Wednesday in Judge E. E. Pomeroy's Superior Court division.

METHODIST WOMEN HIT 'HOODED BANDS'

Constitution

Pass Resolutions Asking They Be Denied Public Appearance.

3-30-40

Resolutions calling upon state and city governments to prohibit the public appearance of "hooded bands for any purpose" were adopted at the closing session of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist church Thursday.

The resolution was introduced by Mrs. Stewart Colley, of Grantville, chairman of the resolutions committee, and was supported by Mrs. L. M. Awtrey, of Acworth, president of the conference, and Mrs. M. E. Tilley, of Atlanta. A thousand women by standing vote adopted the measure.

The resolution follows:

"Resolved that: Whereas recent events have come to light revealing a terrible condition of intimidation, violence and murder at the hands of organized bands in our state, and at the same time use of methods of medieval torture practiced on helpless prisoners by those in authority: Be it resolved by the Woman's Missionary Society of the North Georgia Conference of the Methodist church, assembled in annual session at Glenn Memorial church at Emory University, Ga., this 28th day of March, 1940:

"That, as one means of ending this reign of terror, we call upon our state and city governments to prohibit the public appearance of hooded bands for any purpose whatsoever, and,

"That we urge all law-abiding citizens of the state to demand that our committees be purged of the intolerable conditions recently brought to light, and that they remain alert and watchful against the recurrence of such conditions."

IMPERIAL WIZARD DENIES INDUSTRY

GAVE KLAN HELP

Constitution

Says All Support Comes From Members; Calls Charges of Opposition to CIO in South Untrue.

3-38-40

Complete denial that the Klan had been financed by any large industry or employer of labor, or had agreed to join forces with the German-American Bund or other group, was made yesterday by James A. Colescott, imperial wizard of the Ku Klux Klan.

"Just two days after I became imperial wizard, last June, George Deatherage of the Knights of the White Camellia telegraphed me a proposition to join forces, saying 'Now is the time,' but I refused.

"It is not true that we have fought to prevent advance of the CIO into the south. I don't know about these stories of organizers and men being beaten for promoting or joining southern CIO unions, but I do know our only interest would be in whether they were being managed by Americans.

Nothing Against Americans.

"More than 40 per cent of America's working people are members of unions, and of course a lot of these are members of the CIO. The Klan has nothing against anyone who is American and following American principles.

"I was told yesterday that Dr. Evans (Colescott's predecessor as imperial wizard) said last summer he expected 'help from the textile industry,' but I know nothing about that. I know I would not accept a contribution from any interested person."

Colescott said all of the Klan's income is derived from dues of members—who number one million, he asserted. Nobody makes any blanket or large scale gifts, he reiterated.

Records Open.

"Let them look at my records," he invited. "They are open to any authorized body."

He told of reproducing without charge in his publication, "The Fiery Cross," an advertisement which Henry Ford had published at the regular space rates in Atlanta newspapers.

"We didn't get a dime for that," he insisted. "It was just a good example of Americanism that was the reason we printed it free.

"Henry Ford has never approached us about joining the Klan or getting help from the Klan in his labor troubles."

To illustrate the care he said he exercised not to become involved with doubtful organizations or causes the imperial wizard displayed a life membership card he had just received from "The Indian Association of America, Inc.," presumptively made up of the only genuine Americans in a racial and historical sense.

Will Investigate.

"I'm going to investigate them thoroughly before I accept," said Colescott. "They might turn out to be something subversive."

The card named Colescott "Strong Eagle" and was signed by "Dr. Barnabas S'hushusba."

"The only things I'm a member of," said the Klan head, "are the Odd Fellows, American Legion, the Klan, the Masonic order, and the Methodist church."

At one time, Colescott revealed, he served the Klan in Indiana, where the hooded order's state chieftain, or grand dragon, D. C. Stephenson, was sent to prison for life on conviction of assaulting and killing a young woman.

GRIM REPORTS ARE REVEALED IN KLAN PROBE

Telegraph

Jittery Witnesses, Encouraged By Grand Jury Action, Baring Secrets

3-31-40

INDICTMENTS FORTHCOMING

ATLANTA—(AP)—Prosecutors encouraged by flogging indictments against 10 men on Ku Klux Klan rolls drew further reports of terrorism from uneasy witnesses Saturday in a drive to find the whip-wielder who beat a suburban barber to death the night of March 7.

While Fulton county officers rounded up the indicted men, Solicitor General John A. Boykin expressed belief the inquiry which had disclosed two kidnapings and 23 floggings about Atlanta in the last three years was "only scratching the surface."

The Atlanta Journal said the latest turn in the investigation was a report that a band of women floggers had operated in South Fulton county in much the same manner as male night riders.

"The reports indicated," The Journal story continued, "a woman now residing in East Point had been flogged twice, once by a group of men night-riders and later by a group of eight women.

Women Flogged

"At Union City, two women were reported to have been flogged, but it was believed they had been lashed by a gang of men."

Bonds of $5,000 to $10,000 were the rule for the men named in the new indictments. Among the 10 were two deputy sheriffs who took voluntary leaves from duty soon after the investigation began.

The deputies were Herb Eidson, charged with assault with intent to murder, kidnaping and assault and battery, and Ed Burdette, charged with assault with intent to murder, in gang terrorism.

Before returning the indictments last night the jury questioned Imperial Wizard James A. Colescott concerning Klan membership at nearby East Point, and obtained from him a roster and other chapter records.

'Cross . . . Sacred Thing'

Colescott denied to newsmen after he left the jury room that parades of hooded knights and burning of crosses were permitted "to intimidate or coerce anyone."

"The fiery cross is a sacred thing," he said. "It symbolizes the cross upon which Christ died."

He will take no action against any of his followers unless they are convicted, he said adding "we believe in the principle that a man is innocent until proved guilty."

The indictments brought to 1[illegible] the number of men accused since the inquiry started after the whip death of Isaac Gaston. The husky 37-year-old father of three children was found dead in a field hours after several men dragged him protesting from his one-chair barber shop. On a knoll near his welt-marked body police found a heavy-thronged whip.

Two days later blind Coroner Paul Donehoo remarked on the eve of an inquest that "some organized group" was responsible.

Prosecutor Boykin and Assistant Solicitor Dan Duke said they were withholding, as a protective measure, names of witnesses appearing before the grand jury.

The Atlanta Constitution said numerous wives were asked whether they "reported" their husbands to the Klan.

"To a woman they denied this, but in the end were confronted with witnesses and reluctantly forced to admit their actions," the paper said.

The Constitution also said that testimony before the jury "was to the effect that the floggings virtually were a part of the ritual of the East Point Klan."

"One witness who had applied for (Klan) membership," the Constitution said, "told of being taken on a flogging expedition before his membership had been voted on.

"He was made so ill 'spiritually and physically,' he testified, by what he saw—the brutal swinging of the strap, the cringing and cries of the victim, the merciless gleams in the eyes of the beaters who took turns—that he hastened to withdraw his application and never again approached any of the floggers."

The name of Gaston, whose death started the current investigation was not mentioned in the indictments returned yesterday.

FOUR OF ACCUSED RELEASED ON BAIL; PROBE CONTINUES

Constitution

Newly Discovered Leads Are Being Followed by Police; More Confessions Are Expected.

By WILLARD COPE.

Methods of operation of the flogging band of Ku Klux Klan members were revealed by unimpeachable sources yesterday while officers completed ten arrests on indictments returned Friday night by the grand jury.

Three of the accused, Henry Cawthon, Dan Eidson and Herb Eidson, were released in $10,000 bail, and Ed Burdette was released in $5,000 bail. According

o records at Fulton tower, Cawthon's surety was Mrs. Gertrude Suttles; Simon Zimmerman was Herb Eidson's surety; H. P. Eidson was Dan Eidson's surety, and Howard L. Carmichael was Burdette's surety.

Leads in additional cases, newly discovered, and in the death from beating and exposure of Ike Gaston, were being followed by Captain Frank Jordan and Patrolmen J. W. Gilbert and John T. Carter, of county police, under direction of Solicitor General John A. Boykin and his aide, Daniel Duke.

Far From Over.

It was reiterated that the investigation was far from finished. Further sensational testimony was expected at future sessions of the grand jury.

Three confessions were in the possession of officers, with others expected as the cases tightened.

Never less than seven men, and frequently as many as 12, took part in individual beatings. While none of the floggers was masked, they shielded their faces and were careful in most instances to pull the victims' hats over their eyes to circumvent identification.

Handcuffs, badges and fake warrants of arrest were used in overawing and rendering the victims complaisant.

Occasionally two or even three straps were used, each swung powerfully in turn by members of the band while the victim was held firmly bent over, his flesh exposed.

Motive of Floggers.

One motive of the floggers was revealed in the case of P. S. Toney, who was kidnaped at Scottdale on the night of August 1, 1938, taken in an automobile to the East Point city dump, and there flogged.

Toney and certain other witnesses declared he had been told he was "too active in the CIO." One of the beaters was said to have asserted: "I'm an AFL man myself. I'm against this CIO." Objection also was made, it was asserted, to Toney's having "a foreign license tag" on his automobile.

In Toney's case, Friday's indictments accused W. T. Walton, an East Point worker at odd jobs, Cawthon, an East Point filling station proprietor; Dan Eidson, a printing house electrotyper; Walter Forster, Oakland City, a worker in an automobile body factory and Raymond Bryan, mechanic employed at the East Point water works.

The busiest period for the floggers, as gathered from testimony, was three and a half hours on the night of last May 23. Three victims, Doc F. Floyd, Hugh Brannen and W. L. Allen, were beaten separately at the East Point dump and an Egan Park preacher, Grady Kent, at the creosote works site near by.

Indictments were returned by the grand jury shortly after 8 o'clock Friday night and were transmitted to Judge Hugh M. Dorsey, of superior court, to complete legal formalities. Bench warrants were signed, and officers set out to make arrests.

The first to be brought to the Tower was Cawthon, who arrived in custody about 9 o'clock Saturday morning.

Others indicted were Deputy Sheriff Ed Burdette, accused on two counts; George Cameron, four counts; Charlie Watts, four counts, and Cliff Golden, three counts.

Cawthon was accused on 16 counts and Walton on 11.

Wizard Hopes He Can Restore Charter of Klan

Order Suspending East Point Group Is Released Here.

4-20-40

This is the order of Imperial Wizard J. A. Colescott suspending the charter of the East Point Ku Klux Klan, which was announced in yesterday morning's Constitution:

"To the Exalted Cyclops, Terrors, and Klansmen of East Point Klan No. 51.

"Realm of Georgia.

"Greetings:

"This is to advise you that I have this day suspended the charter of East Point Klan No. 51, Realm of Georgia, for cause.

"This action has been taken in order that there may be no complications or embarrassment to any members of your Klan or to the officials of the law in the performance of their legal duties. From information furnished me by members of the East Point Klan, I have deemed it best to suspend this charter, and I sincerely hope that this matter will be cleared up in such a way that I can restore this charter to the hundreds of good men in the East Point Klan who have never had the slightest part in any lawlessness whatsoever.

"It is my desire that the men who are under indictment shall receive fair trials on the merits of their cases, and therefore I will do no more at this time than suspend the charter in the hope that I can rebuild this unit later with those whose loyalty to law and order and to the principles of the Klan is unquestioned."

Wizard Admits Punitive Action Being Planned

Constitution

Believed To Have Given Grand Jury Records; Trial Set Today

4-17-40

By WILLARD POPE.

Further capitulation by Imperial Wizard James A. Colescott, of the Ku Klux Klan, to the situation created by floggings was seen yesterday upon revelation in an informed quarter that he was planning to dissolve the East Point Klan as two members are to be brought to trial today as the result of recent indictments.

Not only was the charter of the unit to be suspended, it was declared, but the wizard was to call upon the group to surrender all Klan paraphernalia, including crosses, gowns and hoods.

Appears Before Jury.

Colescott was before the Fulton grand jury briefly yesterday and was understood to have brought records of the Klan. He appeared with a bulging brief case and departed with it empty.

Previously the wizard had declared his position was that he would consider all accused klansmen "innocent until convicted", but yesterday he admitted punitive action toward the East Point klan was impending.

"I have heard some things that I am investigating," Colescott said. "I am trying to verify them now. I will not have any unit of the klan trying to interfere with the processes of law."

Calls Advisers.

Asked if his investigation dealt with reports that the East Point klan had discussed the flogging situation on the floor and had been instructed by its exalted cyclops, W .W. Scarborough, indicted Fulton deputy sheriff, to start a "backfire," Colescott replied:

"Yes. It is those intimidation stories that I am looking into. I will not tolerate things like that."

The wizard had summoned his "kloncilium," or national council, to advise with him in the light of falling off of attendance at klan gatherings since the flogging exposure, but he said yesterday suspension of the East Point klan would be his personal action as chief official of the hooded organization.

Jury Issue Up.

An important tactical consideration in the suspension plan was the scheduled opening today of trial of two East Point klansmen, Henry Cauthon, on 17 counts of assault and battery, and Dan Eidson, on five counts.

Solicitor General John A. Boykin was preparing for the hearing, but Reuben Garland, defense counsel, was unwilling to say if he would seek a continuance. Each side had summoned about 35 witnesses.

Jury selection is regarded as a key point today in view of the state's known effort to obtain lists of klan membership for use in striking talesmen.

However, it was explained, under misdemeanor trial procedure, 24 talesmen are called, the state is given five strikes, the defense seven, and the remaining talesmen form the jury, unless there are further strikes for cause.

Flogger Convicted

4-27-40

Georgia has dealt sternly with the first Ku Klux Klan flogger convicted in a series of prosecutions growing out of terroristic practices in and around Atlanta. Henry Cawthon, a filling station keeper named by witnesses as a diligent whip wielder, has been convicted of assault and battery in one case and sentenced to pay a $1000 fine and to serve a total of 18 months. There are indications of an appeal.

One of Cawthon's own employes testified that he was subjected to a whipping, and that next day his boss laughed gaily over the incident. The husky, red-haired garage man revealed, according to the testimony, a delicious sense of humor over the whole business of night kidnapings and attacks. Yet on the witness stand he cried that he had been "framed," and shortly thereafter broke into shoulder-shaking sobs.

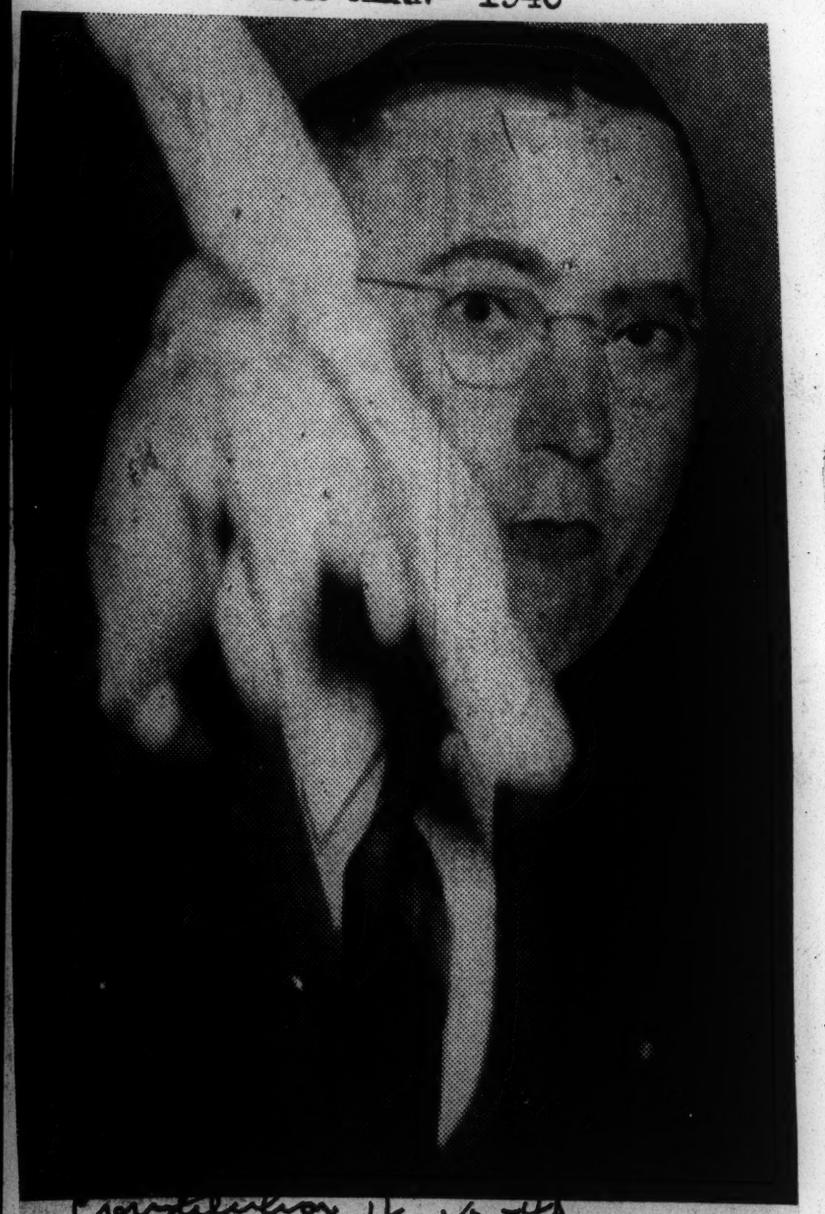
No one can say how many of the floggers' victims were "framed," for none had the privilege of a trial. It is characteristic also of this type of masked vigilante that when the time comes to take his own medicine the fun of it all is replaced by deep self-pity.

The prosecutions have had more far-reaching repercussions. The Ku Klux Klan has revoked the charter of the chapter which furnished, apparently, most of the terrorists, and has ordered the mask discarded. With a few exceptions, its officials seem to have co-operated with investigators and prosecutors. Nevertheless it cannot wholly escape responsibility for the reign of terror. An organization that operates with mystery and menace and conveys the impression of having some sort of official status, cannot control members who feel they are licensed to make practical application of what they consider to be a general policy. The victims of outrages cannot, for the same reason, conceive what good it will do them to complain to authorities, since the inference is that the authorities know all about it anyhow. It was not, in fact, until one of the victims died from the effects of a beating that the citizenship of Georgia became aroused.

Some of the Louisiana scandals were perpetrated under the same sort of vague, protective cloak furnished by a ruthless and immoral machine. The election beatings, punishment for which threw more than one defendant into a plight resembling that of Georgia's Cawthon, are a direct case in point.

KU KLUX KLAN- 1940

GEORGIA



Constitution Staff Photo—Bill Will

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Anti-CIO Sentiment Is Linked To East Point Klan Flogging

Scottdale Worker Tells of Being Kidnaped and Beaten After Band Lures Him Into Car Which Another Witness Says Belonged to Cauthon.

By WILLARD COPE.

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Victim Paints Picture.

They were H. A. Guffin, Scottdale shoemaker and Baptist church deacon, and Luke L. Trimble, barber and keeper of the East Point Klan's records. The picture was filled in by the victim himself, who told graphically of his experiences on the night of August 1, 1938.

Meanwhile, in the course of the second day of the trial, additional evidence was offered that Cauthon participated both in flogging expeditions and actuall ashings, as his attorney, Reuben Garland, fought back stubbornly to break down the testimony.

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Two weeks later—according to Secretary Trimble, who continued the chronology—two automobiles filled with East Point Klansmen, and including the defendant, carried out the capture of Toney and his lashing.

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"You remember a deacons meeting of the Scottdale Baptist church?" Boykin asked.

"Yes."

"Is Mr. Cothran a deacon?"

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Toney, who gave his age as 39, said he had worked in the weaving department of the Scottdale mill since he was 14. He declared he was lured into the klan car, which Trimble swore belonged to Cauthon, by men who pretended they were officers interested in the Michigan license plate on his own automobile.

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He exhibited to the jury a wide scar on the right side of his abdomen and another on his head which he said caused him almost constant headaches. His back from about the middle to his knees was beaten, he said. About eight or nine men were immediately around him, some in hoods, when he was flogged at the East Point city dump, and about 20 others stood farther away, looking on.

One of his attackers told him Toney testified:

"Now, I guess you'll let that damned union alone. We're going to break up all these damned unions."

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"I asked that man with the hood if he was going to kill me," Toney testified, "because at first I thought the handle of the whip was a knife. He said: 'We're going to come damned nigh it.' And they did come damned nigh it."

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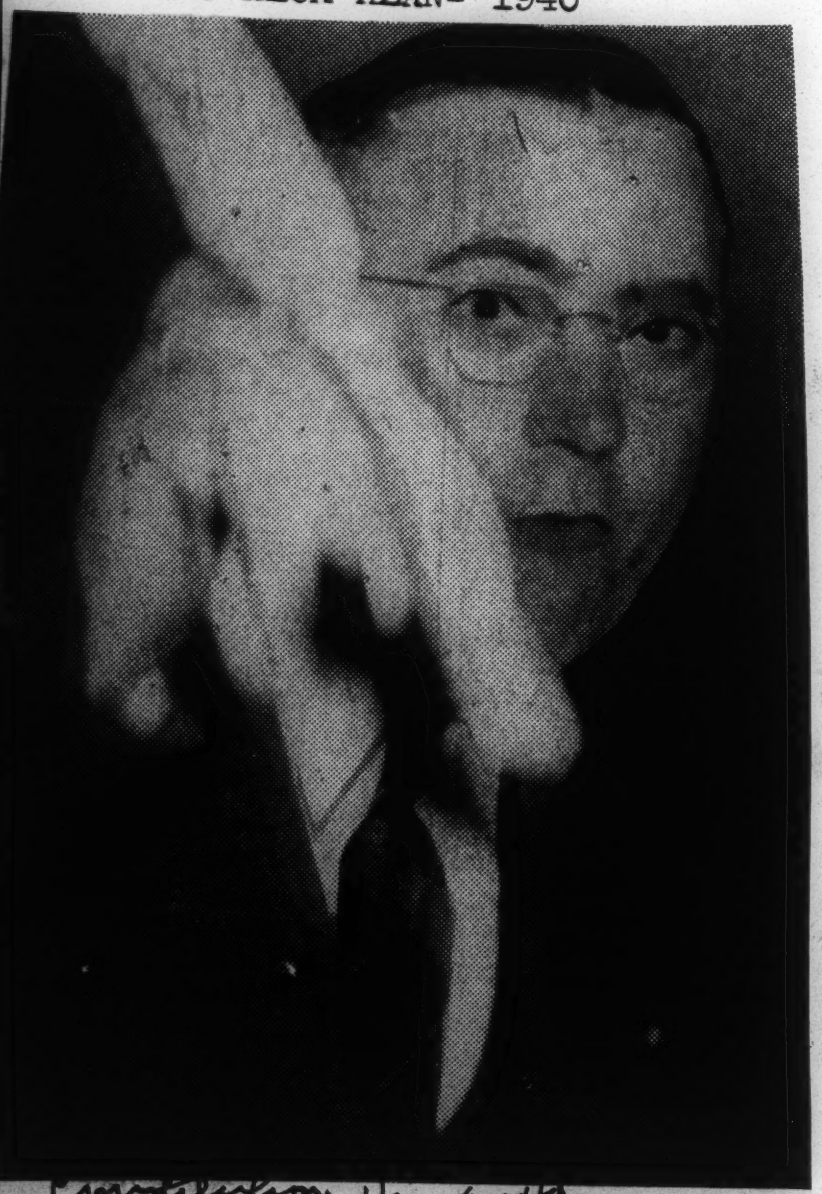

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Georgia Kluxer Sent To Chain Gang Following Flogging Conviction

Red Haired Baptist Preacher Punished For Terror Campaign Against Negroes

ATLANTA, Ga.—(ANP)—The first dent on Ku Klux Klan terrorism in this state was made last week when Henry Cauthon, Klansman, was convicted here of the flogging of P. S. Toney and sentenced to the maximum punishment under Georgia law, 12 months on the chain gang six months in jail, and a $1,000 fine.

Cauthon, red haired Baptist who led his night riders in a terrorization campaign against Negroes and whites in East Point, a suburb of Atlanta, was the first to be tried of 16 Klansmen indicted.

"This is just the beginning" Assistant Solicitor General Daniel Duke said after Cauthon's conviction. "We will fight now with every force we have to bring to justice this group that has set itself up as a Fulton county Al Capo. We won't stop until they're all gone."

The jury's verdict deeply "shocked" Cauthon and his attorney, and amazed the defendant's friends, who like he were gay, optimistic and confident of acquittal. Cauthon, asked to stand up to receive his sentence, flushed from his neck to the roots of his flaming hair and then paled as sentence was pronounced.

"I wonder," commented a spectator, "if he got that red when he was whipping people?"

Judge Dorsey visibly tense, spoke.

"Well, the jury found you guilty on count 12," he said sharply. "The sentence of the court is that you serve 12 months on public works, six months in jail, and pay a $1,000 fine."

A gasp rippled through the courtroom crowd. Cauthon made no comment. He still faces trial on the indictment for allegedly kidnapping Toney, an organizer for the Congress of Industrial Organizations' Textile Workers' Union.

Cauthon, indicted on 17 counts, had eight withdrawn, was found innocent of eight, and convicted on the remaining one. The next trial in the chain of flogging trials will be that of Dan Edison, brother of Herbert Edison, a deputy sheriff, who also is under indictment. The trial opens May 8.

BOYKIN KKK MAN, EIDSON CHARGES

Figure In Flog Probe Says Court Officials Tried To Force Confession

ATLANTA, (AP) — Pallid and pounding the witness rail in Fulton superior court, young Dan Eidson heatedly denied Wednesday any part in suburban Ku Klux Klan floggings of a Negro and a CIO labor organizer.

Charging that Solicitor General John A. Boykin was a Klansman, the slight, 25-year-old electrotyper said Assistant Solicitor Dan Duke tried to intimidate him into confessing, and that admitted-flogger W. C. Bishop testified against him because of a grudge.

Second Defendant

Eidson is the second of 15 defendants to be tried for assault and battery in the state's probe into night-riding terrorism, set off by the lash-death of Isaac Gaston, suburban barber, the night of March 7. No one has been indicted for Gaston's death.

Red-haired Henry Cawthon, 30, first to be tried, was convicted of assault and battery, given 6 months in jail, 12 months in a prison camp and $1,000 fine. He appealed.

The first day of Cawthon's trial, Imperial Wizard James A. Colescott entered the nearby East Point Klan hall and ripped the charter from the wall. Both Cawthon and Eidson admitted membership in that chapter.

Bishop Names Eidson

State Witness Bishop testified Eidson was one of a "wrecking crew" of the East Point Klansmen who flogged George Grooms, a Negro, in 1938 after dragging him from his house in night clothes. He said Eidson shoved a gun in the Negro's mouth, sat on him and kicked his head.

In an unsworn statement from the stand, permitted under Georgia criminal procedure, Edison said that once when Klan members were distributing food to the poor "Bishop was drunk in his robes (regalia) . . . he took the food out and sold it to get more liquor, and we expelled him from the klan." Eidson is charged with a misdemeanor.

High Penalties For Klansmen Demanded By Aroused Citizens

'We Have Only Scratched the Surface,' Prosecutor Declares, Indicating New Indictments In Atlanta's Night Whipping Terror

By The U

ATLANTA, Ga., March 30.—Use of studded leather whips by members of the Ku Klux Klan to enforce a private code of morals on suburban Atlanta tonight brought a threat of long prison sentences for some of the hooded and robed organization.

Ten Klansmen were indicted—and a number of others involved—in a series of brutal floggings that killed one man and maimed many more. Additional indictments were expected next week from the Fulton County Grand Jury. Solicitor General John Boykin said, "We have only scratched the surface."

List Of Cases Mounts

Reports of extra-legal whippings multiplied as the Klan suffered the impact of prosecution of individual members and aroused public opinion unequalled in this section for generations.

Reports that several floggings had been carried out by night-riding groups of women were made today to county authorities who began an immediate investigation.

James A. Colescott, imperial wizard of the Klan, repeatedly asserted that his secret order did not sanction intimidation and physical violence.

Kidnaping Charged

From more than 200 witnesses already questioned before the grand jury, however, came stories of floggings attributed to the Klan unit at East Point, Atlanta suburb. Nine of the ten indicted Klansmen were identified as members of the East Point unit. The 10th belonged to another Klan.

Charges already filed against indicted Klansmen included kidnaping, assault with intent to murder and assault and battery.

One man, Henry Cawthon, a sharp-eyed filling station operator, was accused of "laying the leather" on the bared buttocks of 15 differen tvictims. He was also indicted for kidnaping.

W. T. Walton, a fat, middle-aged poultry raiser, was charged with participation in 10 floggings and one kidnaping.

Two law enforcement officers, Deputy Sheriff Herb Edison and Ed Burdette, also identified as Klansmen, were caught in the web of evidence. Eidson was indicted on two counts of assault to murder, one on kidnaping and other for assault and battery. Burdette was charged twice with assault to murder.

Indictments were yet to be returned in the murder of Ike Gaston, an East Point barber whose death at the hands of whip-swingers uncovered the Klan operations. Mr. Gaston was thrown over a stump near East Point and lashed to death. Other flog victims were emboldened by the investigation and publicity incident to Mr. Gaston's death and went to the police with stories of beatings that dated as far back as four years.

More Indictments Expected

Murder charges against several Klansmen were expected next week in connectio with the Gaston case.

Most of the flog victims—23 were named in the indictments—were persons from humble walks of life—textile mill hands, WPA workers and unemployed painters who lived in a district of little communities clustered on the outskirts of Atlanta.

Some of the reasons given by the floggers to their victims were absurdly trivial, others demonstrative of a narrow-minded, dogmatic interpretation of immorality.

FLOG WITNESSES BEING PROTECTED

Constitution

Boykin Aides Keep on Alert Against Any Attempts to Intimidate.

3-27-40

A new element of surprise entered the Fulton grand jury's probe of wholesale floggings late yesterday afternoon as determined inquiry was begun into circumstances indicating efforts to intimidate witnesses.

Close inspection was being made of all persons showing an unexplained interest in proceedings on the third floor of the courthouse where the inquisitorial body meets. Visitors to witness rooms, loiterers and even casual passers-by were being checked over unostentatiously by aides of Solicitor General John A. Boykin, who is vigorously pressing the inquiry.

Two men were understood to have confessed, and, in addition, identities of two persons present at the savage beating of Gaston were considered established.

The solictor general termed a story printed Tuesday concerning four alleged confessions "entirely misleading," and declared "it gives to the public an impression that is absolutely false."

Harold Sheats, a county attorney, served as counsel for Raymond (Slim) Bryan, indicted on two counts as a flogger, in an effort to have his bail reduced from $10,000 to $5,000. The petition came before Judge Paul S. Etheridge, and hearing was deferred until 2 o'clock this afternoon as the solicitor's staff was deeply immersed in the grand jury's activities.

FLOGGING PROBE EVENTS TRACED FROM DAY-TO-DAY

Constitution

Chronological Record Shows Development of Case From Gaston's Death to Indictments.

3-31-40

The following is a day-by-day chronology of the investigation into floggings as reported in The Constitution:

March 8—Murdered body of Ike Gaston, East Point barber, found three miles south of Ben Hill; brutal whip near by; welts on body.

March 9—County police assert names of Gaston's slayers are known; Coroner Paul Donehoo declares "some organized group" is responsible; Solicitor General John A. Boykin begins probe.

March 10—Other victims begin to reveal floggings; search instituted for man who saw Gaston leave his barber shop.

Deputies Mentioned.

March 11—Deputy sheriffs of Fulton county are linked with beatings for first time; state offers $250 reward in Gaston case; The Constitution reveals names of half a dozen who were said to have been victims of floggers.

March 12.—Claud Campbell and W. C. Anderson, East Point; Clifton Golden, Egan Park, and Charlie Watts, 2119 Gordon road, indicted for beating S. W. Jones and T. E. Young; bonds fixed at $5,000 each; George Wright, flog victim, says group who beat him up used county car; Mayor J. R. Parham, East Point, offers $100 reward in Gaston case.

March 13.—G. W. Wright identitfied Deputy Sheriff Herb Eidson and East Point City Policeman T. A. Andrews as being in mob which flogged him; T. E. Young identifies lash which killed Gaston as the same one used on him; deputy sheriff says he is exalted cyclops of East Point Klan and that fellow deputies Ed Burdette and Herb Eidson are members.

Secrecy Prevails.

March 14.—Flog probe retires to secrecy of grand jury room.

March 15.—Floggings in Fulton linked for first time with murder of Sara Rawls and Benton Ford at McDonough; Captain Ben Seabrooks reveals close kin of one Klansman once was sweetheart of slain girl.

March 16.—Solicitor Boykin announces he has established fact union organizers had been flogged in Douglas county and moves to co-ordinate all law enforcement agencies working on Gaston case.

March 17—J. L. Matthews, Negro movie operator at Decatur, tells police his flogging was preceded by Klan parade.

March 18—County Police Chief George Mathieson receives letter threatening harm to his grandson unless flogging probe and drive against lottery are called off; Imperial Wizard James A. Colescott announces any Klansman found guilty of floggings will be banished from order.

March 19—Raymond (Slim) Bryan, East Point city employe, arrested in connection with unnamed flogging and bond set at $5,000.

March 20—Search continued for Claud Campbell, indicted in connection with flogging of T. E. Young.

March 21—After 10 1-2 hours of special grand jury session, Solicitor Boykin announces, "We have hardly scratched the surface."

March 22.—Raymond Bryan indicted, charged with flogging W. R. Jackson, attempting to flog James W. Wilkes; new bond set at $10,000; Deputies Eidson, Burdette and Scarborough ask for and receive "indefinite suspension" from Sheriff Aldredge.

March 23.—Dan Eidson, nephew of Herb Eidson, material witness in flogging probe, was revealed by Mrs. J. R. Rawls as former sweetheart of her slain daughter, Sara.

March 24.—Hints of big developments due came from police.

March 25.—Fifty witnesses parade before secret session of grand jury; raid on East Point Klan headquarters reveals no records.

March 26. — Solicitor's men watch carefully all visitors to third floor of the courthouse to protect witnesses.

March 27—Flogging investigation nears indictment stage, officers hint; reports two floggers of Ike Gaston have talked stir courthouse.

March 28—Twenty-five Klansmen named in subpoena ordering Imperial Wizard James A. Colescott to bring all records of East Point Klan before grand jury.

March 29—Indictments returned by grand jury against 10 men, all alleged to be members of the Ku Klux Klan.

Indicting the Night-Riders

Ten men, all of them members of the Ku Klux Klan, have been indicted in Fulton county in connection with recent floggings and kidnapings, and while none of the true bills found thus far is linked with the fatal beating of an East Point barber, strong evidence in that case is being developed.

There have been some intimations that members of the gang operating in Fulton county may have been involved in the murder of a young man and woman whose battered bodies were found near McDonough several weeks ago.

Even the minor offenses thus far charged against the night-riders constitute a challenge to society and civilization. If individuals, openly or hooded, organized or unorganized, can appoint themselves moral censors and administer punishment on their own account, every right and liberty we are supposed to enjoy under the law has been threatened at its foundation. The Fulton county mobocracy must be hunted down.

Constitution 4-18-40

Constitution Staff Photo—Bill Maso

OLD AND NEW—The "old and the new" full regalia of the Ku Klux Klan is depicted above in two poses by Imperial Wizard J. A. Colescott. His robe is red while those of ordinary Klansmen are white. Colescott said many messages poured into Klan headquarters approving the edict to unmask permanently all members of the organization.

Klan to Show Its Face; Puts Bar on Masks

Atlanta, Ga., April 17 (AP).—National officers of the Ku Klux Klan decreed unmasking for the hooded order today at the same time trial of 17 men in connection with night rider flogging terrorism was begun here.

Imperial Wizard James A. Colescott, after a five day parley with the imperial kloncilium [directorate], issued edicts barring the pearl-holed white visor from Klan regalia, restricting parades and burning of the fiery cross, Klan emblem.

Almost simultaneously with Colescott's announcement the Fulton county Superior court started the trial of Henry Cauthon, first of 17 members and former members of a suburban Klan unit to face a jury after several weeks' grand jury investigation caused by the flogging death of Isaac Gaston, a barber.

Accused in 16 Whippings.

Cauthon, an oil truck driver, was charged with assault and battery, a misdemeanor, in connection with the whippings of 16 persons.

Colescott said the Klan edicts were not prompted by the flog investigations and that the current trial had nothing to do with it. Officials hoped removal of masks would "discourage nonmembers from using Klan robes to cover criminal actions—as has been done in many instances."

The new show of faces does not mean there will be a change in the Klan policy of secrecy concerning membership lists, Colescott added.

Faces Must Be Shown.

Under the edicts a klansman may not appear in public or in private with his face hidden by a mask. Violation is punishable by banishment.

Klan regalia parades were limited to those with specific permission from high Klan officers and local law officers. Cross burning will require permission of Klan officers and owners of any private property on which a cross might be lighted.

Colescott said the only action taken by the kloncilium concerning the flogging inquiry was to commend him for attempts to coöperate with the authorities in bringing to justice those responsible for the floggings.

The wizard appeared before the grand jury several times with records of the East Point, Ga., Klan unit involved. The wizard said suspension of the unit was under consideration.

Klan Unit Suspended Until 'Night-Riding' Investigation Is Over

ATLANTA—(AP)—Imperial Wizard James A. Colescott, of the Ku Klux Klan, today suspended authority of the suburban East Point unit to convene as an official klan body until the night-riding terrorism investigation is completed.

The klan chieftain charged that witnesses in the current flogging investigation and prosecution were being intimidated at meetings of the East Point klan.

Colescott went to the East Point lodge hall last night, removed the charter from the wall, confiscated a number of records and placed leaders of the unit under suspension.

Colescott said he took action after reading testimony of the trial of Henry Cawthon, East Point mechanic and klansman who is charged on 16 counts of assault and battery growing out of the night-riding terrorism.

"I realized," he said, "that I owed it to the innocent majority of the East Point membership, as well as the klan as a whole and the public at large, not to permit another meeting of a unit in which an outlaw minority appears to hold the leadership."

Early Break in Fatal Flogging And 'Lovers' Lane' Killings Seen

Seabrook Continues To Weave Single Web of Clues in Three Deaths; Sheriff Aldredge Declares He Will Not Resign.

By WILLARD COPE.

An early "break" in the fatal flogging of Ike Gaston or the "lovers' lane" slaying of Sara Rawls and Benton Ford—and perhaps in both simultaneously through a single web of circumstances—was seen as a distinct possibility last night.

Curious linking of the East Point flogging band with the dual murder near McDonough was continued further yesterday by Captain Ben W. Seabrook, head of the Atlanta identification bureau now in charge of the case.

Clues Withheld.

He carefully withheld the nature of his clues, but was known to regard as considerably more than mere coincidences several facts which involved the same identities both in the floggings around south Fulton county and the beating to death of the young couple with some undisclosed heavy instrument.

Meantime, the Atlanta Post No. 1, American Legion, through its executive committee, declared A. J. Allen, Americanism chairman for this area, acted only in his individual capacity in issuing a demand Friday for resignation of Sheriff Mott Aldredge, three of whose deputies have been named as members of the Ku Klux Klan.

Sheriff Aldredge said he would not resign, and questioned Allen's right to speak for the Legion. He said he would take no action regarding his three deputies, Herb Eidson, Edwin Burdette and W. W. Scarborough, unless the grand jury acted.

City council records yesterday showed that an anti-mask ordinance was introduced February 6 last year, after a series of downtown "kidnapings" by robed Klansmen, but came to nothing.

Killed by Vote.

It was adversed by the police committee and killed by a non-record vote February 20. Only its author, Councilman J. Frank Beck, was listed in its favor.

Attending the session were Aldermen G. Dan Bridges, Ed A. Gilliam, Robert Carpenter, Lester R. Brewer and Frank H. Reynolds, and Councilmen Charles L. Chosewood, Cecil W. Hester, George B. Lyle, E. A. Minor, J. Allen Couch, W. T. Knight, C. M. (Mac) Bolen, John T. Marler, Mr. Beck, John A. White and Howard Haire. Absent were I. Gloer Hailey and Frank Wilson.

Police were investigating the story of a young woman, living in a Piedmont avenue apartment house, that she had been flogged about the ankles by two well-dressed men, whom she did not know, wielding a buggy whip. Little relation was seen to the other incidents, however.

In an additional case, Solicitor General Boykin said he had established the beating of two textile union organizers in Douglas county after a Labor Day meeting at which they spoke. Similar instances already had been reported from the mill section of Egan Park.

Co-ordinate Forces.

Co-ordination of forces at work on the various outrages was sought yesterday by Solicitor Boykin. He announced all facts thus far adduced would be sifted, and that every man available to him would be sent into action.

It was not certain when evidence would be presented to the grand jury, but it was known that all of the sensational testimony given at Coroner Paul Donehoo's inquest into the Gaston flogging was being carefully studied. From eight to ten early indictments were forceast.

Police, KKK Affiliation Comes To Light In Fulton

One Flogging Victim Charges Deputy Sheriff Was Among His Attackers

ATLANTA, March 13 (AP)—A coroner's jury failed today to name the flogging slayers of Isaac Gaston, after learning of a police-Ku Klux Klan affiliation and after watching the death strap fitted dramatically to scars on another vigilante victim.

The inquest closed wiht a verdict that the East Point barber was beaten to death in a lonely farm field in Southwest Fulton county last week by three or more men whose identities were not known to the jury.

This open finding was considerably less sensational than testimony showing three Fulton county deputy sheriffs are leaders of the East Point Ku Klux Klan and a charge by still another flogging victim that one of these deputies was among his attackers.

Most vivid scene in the day-long inquiry came late in the afternoon when T. E. Young of East Point bared his back to show scars he said were caused by wounds inflicted by night-riding terrorists last summer. Then Assistant Solicitor Daniel Duke took the heavy, four-foot strap that was found near Gaston's body and matched it against the welts on Young's back.

Earlier, Young picked from a line-up W. C. Amerson, a choir-singing fellow townsman, and J. R. Banks as two of his attackers. Amerson was indicted yesterday on charges of assault with intent to murder in this case. He is free under $5,000 bond.

G. W. Wright of Stonewall told the jury he was flogged in June, 1938, by men he said occupied two automobiles bearing Fulton county insignia and named Deputy Sheriff Herb Eidson and East Point Policeman T. A. Andrews as two of his assailants.

Discovery of Gaston's battered body brought to light many other floggings, and Coroner Paul Donehoo summoned more than 100 witnesses to the inquest, in an effort to shed light on these non-fatal whippings as well as the Gaston death.

Fulton County Deputy Sheriff W. W. Scarborough, called as a witness, acknowledged that he was the Exalted Cyclops, or head officer, of the East Point unit of the Ku Klux Klan. He said his fellow deputies, Herb Eidson and Edward Burdette also were active in the Klan but denied he or the Klan had anything to do with the numerous floggings which have occurred in the past decade near this industrial suburb.

Under grilling by Duke and Donehoo, Scarborough acknowledged that a single letter complaining that "something wasn't doing like he ought to" might bring the burning of a firey cross and a Klan parade near the accused one's home or place of business.

Indictment of Amerson and three others in the Young flogging was the first definite result of widespread indignation aroused by the Gaston killing and the grand jury today was reported considering more cases.

East Point Patrolman E. H. Blount reported he received a telephone call at 3 a.m. today warning him to "lay off his investigation or you'll look like Mike Gaston did."

Another Victim Found

William Tyler, chief of the East Point police, said he had located still another flogging victim who was taken from his home about three weeks ago, lashed and threatened with death if he told police. Chief Tyler refused to give the victim's name but said he could identify his assailants and would go before the grand jury.

Charged by U. S. Judge Marvin Underwood to protect civil liberties, a newly seated federal grand jury already has indicted an Atlanta policeman, charging he burned a Negro prisoner to force a burglary confession, and it is expected to turn to the flogging evil later.

Most of the flogging cases have involved victims who had been in trouble because of drinking or had had domestic difficulties. Gaston had a record of drunkenness and had been accused of wifebeating but his widow joined in condemnation of his attackers.

County Policeman J. W. Gilbert testified to seeing Deputies Edison and Burdette, the former's brother Dan, and Henry Kauffman under suspicious circumstances on the nights of other floggings. He said also that a county automobile apparently had been involved in some of the lashings and Deputy Scarborough admitted possession of a car similar to the one described.

Mrs. Gaston testified she was unable to identify the men who came to her home looking for Gaston shortly before he was taken from his barbershop by the terrorists.

Scarborough professed indignation that the Klan should have been accused of any floggings and declared a committee consisting of Burdette, Eidson and George Cameron had been appointed to investigate floggings but nothing had been accomplished.

All records of the Klan have been destroyed, he said he believed, and Duke immediately sought a summons for Luke Trimble, whom Scarborough named as the Klan secretary.

The Cyclops, under heavy questioning, finally gave the procedure of the Klan as being this:

A letter is received asking for a cross-burning or parade at a given location.

There is no investigation. Imperial Wizard James W. Colescott is telephoned in Atlanta for permission. This invariably is granted, the witness said, although the wizard receives no further information.

The demonstration then is staged. A party from the East Point Klan goes to the designated point and meets "a committee" from the locality requesting the co-operation.

"Aren't you trading on the impression of people generally that the Klan does conduct these beatings," Scarborough was asked.

He denied this but Donehoo told him "it is a resort to intimidation."

"Did the Klan ever stop a flogging?" asked the coroner.

"I don't know of any."

"If you found some of your members had been in a flogging what would you do?"

"We would banish them."

We Are Responsible

Citizens of Atlanta and Fulton county have been inexpressibly shocked by two recent occurrences. First came the disclosure of the alleged torture of a prisoner by an Atlanta police officer in securing a confession which is now repudiated; a confession induced by burning the helpless boy captive with a hot iron.

This was followed within a few hours by the discovery of a man who had been brutally flogged to death by a band of vicious, degenerate hoodlums.

Never, in the history of Atlanta, have crimes been perpetrated which have brought such a sense of shame to the citizenry or which have so cruelly defamed the good repute of the community.

It is unnecessary to state that every decent man and woman will demand that nothing be left undone which might uncover the perpetrators of the flogging outrage. If the local law enforcement machinery can bring these criminals to justice and make of them an example which will forever halt this type of lawlessness, so much the better. If, however, all local efforts fail to show results, it should be possible to call in the Federal Bureau of Investigation. If it is necessary to appeal to the FBI, that appeal must be made.

In the final analysis, both these cases are symptoms of one disease, the failure of law enforcement authority. In the case of the tortured Negro boy, resort to such a practice is confession, by the officer involved, that he is unfit for, and unable to perform, his duty within the bounds of the law. In apparent eagerness to secure a conviction he was willing to sacrifice a boy who, it now appears, is in all probability innocent and, in addition, he has such faint perception of the fundamental rights of the individual under the constitution he betrayed the very foundation of American justice.

The fatal flogging of Ike Gaston was but the culmination, it is now indicated, of a long series of similar outrages. Witnesses, including some of the victims of earlier floggings, declare the evil thing has been practiced for as long as four years. Scores, possibly hundreds, of floggings rave been perpetrated.

This condition, on its face, is irrefutable proof of a woeful failure of law enforcement. There can be no worse crime. It is a crime not only against the individual, but a crime against the law, a crime against all people and a crime against everything expressed or implied in American ideals and American democracy. It is the kind of thing which makes a mock of the constitution and the bill of rights and which, if unchecked, dooms democracy and human liberty to extinction.

Witnesses have said they recognized, among the noxious creatures who took part in floggings, officers of the law. One man declares a deputy sheriff was present at one flogging, at least, and another says two of the floggers were in uniform.

If this is true, if officers have so far disgraced themselves and the law they swore to uphold, the condition becomes a stench in the nostrils of all decent Americans.

The taint that thus appears to have crept into law enforcement ranks may be confined to a few individuals. It is sincerely to be hoped this is true. But, whether the infection is limited to one or two who have betrayed their trust and proved traitor to their country, or whether it is more widespread, there can be no sleep unhaunted by conscience for anyone responsible. And, in the final analysis, the responsibility rests upon all of us. For society must be responsible for the type of men it elects or appoints as its agents of the law.

Stamp Out the Night-Riders

The entire state of Georgia is deeply interested in investigation of the death of an East Point barber as the result of a brutal flogging, administered, in the opinion of the Fulton county coronor, "by an organized group."

John A. Boykin, solicitor general of the Fulton superior court, pledged himself to go to the bottom of this outrageous affair and in the meantime other recent floggings, apparently by "an organized group," have been disclosed and supporting evidence is being gathered.

Newspaper stories out of Atlanta intimate that the East Point barber had been cruel and overbearing in his home life and was given to intemperance, but this could not give the shadow of an excuse for any group, organized or unorganized, to take the law into its own hands.

The severity of the flogging is shown by the fact that the lash, found near the scene of the crime, was constructed with a devilish ingenuity to inflict the maxium of pain and punishment. The very description of this instrument of torture is enough to make one's blood run cold.

But even if the flogging had not resulted fatally and if the punishment had been less severe, all the machinery of the law should be set in motion to run down any group which may set itself up as a censor of private conduct and as a self appointed agency for administering punishment.

On the one hand, cowardice reaches a detestable maxium when an armed band of hoodlums attack an unarmed and unsuspecting citizen in the quiet hours of the night and in the safety of superior force works its will on a helpless victim.

On the other hand, the disclosure that the night-riding marauders are abroad in any community is enough to arouse the last degree of fear and dread.

Even if it were any palliation to know that the charges against the prospective victim are true, it is often the case that such charges are not true. Malignant gossip and a sneaking desire for revenge frequently figure in such affairs. No man or woman can be safe in the home which is supposed to be an Anglo-Saxon's castle when there is reason to apprehend "the destruction that walketh in darkness."

It is true that Georgia does not stand alone as the scene of the night-riding atrocities. Indiana and Illinois have won an evil eminence for that sort of thing.

But sectional hate has pointed an accusing finger at Georgia on many occasions and always stands ready to picture this state as only a step removed from barbarism. Books and films like "I Am a Fugitive from a Georgia Chain-Gang" are seized upon and exploited, as we have seen by the build-up which induced a New Jersey governor to refuse the extradition of Robert Burns, whose cheap exhibitionism was accepted as gospel truth.

Aside from such conderations as these, the people of this state have been fed up on floggings by "an organized group" of self-righteous agents of vengeance whose brutality and outlawry are more injurious than any of the alleged irregularities they pretend to avenge.

We want no more waves of private vengence in this state and it will go a long way to prevent it if the Fulton county authorities exert themselves to the utmost and visit condign punishment on the fiends of darkness responsible for this latest flogging.

ONE WORD MORE

By RALPH McGILL.

WELL, CITIZENS Names of deputy sheriffs have been mentioned in investigations of the floggings in Fulton county.

If members of the sheriff's force also are members of any secret order whose members, with or without official direction, are engaged in lawless flogging, a tremendous and somewhat ghastly situation at once is apparent.

One has but to take a theoretical situation.

A deputy is assigned to each jury.

A deputy is assigned to each court.

A deputy is assigned to each grand jury.

He sees every witness called. Indeed, he calls out their names as the grand jury requests them.

Let us suppose these deputies in this theoretical situation are members of this secret order, or indeed, members of the actual flogging gang.

Those flogged often are poor, fearful persons unaware of their rights. They easily are intimidated.

If their names and identities, even to street addresses, are known, who can blame them if they are afraid to appear before juries; too frightened to ask for help of a law-enforcing body which they believe, rightly or not, to be members of this secret order or of the bands of floggers?

This is a situation which has such frightful possibilities as really to make afraid the most sanguine of men.

It theoretically is possible to deliver over to intimidation and fear all witnesses in any case; to give over justice to brutish beasts; to break down all faith and confidence in the law and its agencies.

SHALL WE JOIN? If this vicious influence which flogs the citizens of this county is going to run this county—

If it is going to know all that goes on in our courts and if it is going to have its shadow over the grand jury room—

Then perhaps we all had best apply for membership, abolish our courts, abandon the jury system, and all of us dwell under the mask and the lash and the beneficent rule of the leaders of that type of rule.

This is not so much an exaggeration as it may seem.

We have seen our own city council refuse to outlaw the mask on the grounds that on Halloween children might not be able to wear their Halloween masks. One opponent of the measure seriously stated his opposition on the grounds it would prevent the appearance of Santa Claus costumes at Christmastime.

Is there not enough public feeling to cause council to outlaw the mask in Atlanta?

Is the legislature unwilling to follow the lead of Virginia and other southern states and outlaw the wearing of the mask in public?

Or shall we all join up? And go out and flog and beat and kill some helpless creature whom we dislike?

THE REAL PATRIOTISM It is a bit confusing at times to consider how patient and long suffering we are as a people.

Perhaps it is best, because in a sudden turnover sometimes the result is no better than what was turned out.

We have many persons who, if the state or nation were in danger from an invasion, would respond ready, if need be, to give their lives.

Yet, because there is no dramatization of such a thing as flogging, because obviously those doing the flogging are low-grade trash, they do not become alarmed.

There is no graver threat to Americanism than comes from a masked band which has taken an oath that goes beyond loyalty to country; which intimidates justice by fear; which seeks to corrupt courts; which insinuates itself into the membership of law-enforcing bodies, and puts loyalty to a mask and a lash above the duties of office.

Here is something calling for all that is best in our civic clubs, in our church memberships, in our women's clubs.

Here is something which calls for the best that is in decent citizenship.

These rats will, if not stopped, become even bolder.

There is time to register and vote.

The ballot is the best weapon.

Will our city council, our legislature, our county government protect Americanism and citizenship?

Or must we bow to terrorism and admit the defeat of decency?

Go register. Investigate. Prepare to vote.

FLOGGING SUSPECT EVADES CAPTURE

Claud Campbell Still at Large; Motive Seen in Schillings Attack.

Efforts were redoubled yesterday to capture Claud Campbell, of East Point, indicted on Tuesday of last week as a flogger, while, on another front, various officials probed the beating Tuesday night of a former Atlanta policeman.

Campbell was the only one of four thus far indicted in the whipping outrages to remain at liberty. He was named as one of the principals in the "wrong man" assault upon T. L. Young, of East Point, last July.

Others accused in the indictment, and arrested the same day, were Charlie Watts, 2119 Grodon road; Clifton Golden, Egan Park and W. C. Amerson, East Point. Each was freed on $5,000 bail.

While officials inquired carefully into the lashing of former Patrolman Charles J. Schillings with his own belt, there was a disposition in one quarter to regard the incident as having special significance.

Schillings was taken by a party of five men while strolling near his home, 1736 Melrose drive, removed in an automobile to a point near a rock quarry on Sylvan road, and there attacked. He was treated at Grady hospital.

Boldness of the "regulators," in the face of a determined hunt for principals in the long series of floggings, was analyzed as having been calculated to produce a result which the floggers believed would aid their efforts to escape detection.

This line of reasoning was being developed with extreme care.

Meanwhile, Councilman J. Frank Beck, responding to an inquiry from The Constitution, said he was not planning to re-introduce his ill-fated proposed ordinance of February, 1939, outlawing the wearing of masks. The ordinance was killed by city council, on an adverse report of the police committee without a record vote.

ROGGE SAYS U. S. STUDYING LASHINGS

Inquiry Started To Find Out If Federal Law Has Been Violated.

By The Associated Press.

O. John Rogge, head of the criminal division of the Department of Justice, asserted yesterday an inquiry was in progress to determine whether such cases as the night-rider lashings in the Atlanta area come within federal jurisdiction.

Discussing the floggings, brought to light after the fatal whipping of a suburban barber, and indictments charging three suspended Atlanta policemen with assaulting prisoners, Rogge declared:

"The Department of Justice is interested in protecting and fostering civil liberties, and if violations constituting federal offenses occur, the department will prosecute."

The Justice Department, he said in an interview, is "interested in any violation of civil liberties," and a special staff investigates such cases.

Two members of the Justice Department accompanied Rogge to Atlanta for conferences with District Attorney Lawrence S. Camp.

Meanwhile, postal authorities studied a threatening letter received Sunday by Fulton County Police Chief George Mathieson. The message threatened the officer's two-year-old grandchild unless he ceased aiding in an investigation of the floggings.

An agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation conferred with Mathieson yesterday.

Rogge said he planned to remain in Atlanta until tomorrow afternoon, when he would leave for Washington.

Warning that the Henderson-Malone proposal, which provides for a constitutional amendment appropriating $3.12 monthly out of the state general fund for each school child for an eight-month term, regardless of whether other state departments receive their appropriations, would result in a break down of state government, Senator Simpson said he believed a straight-out "parity" amendment bill would pass the Legislature.

"If Senator Henderson (J. Bruce Henderson, co-author of the bill with Senator W. W. Malone) would substitute a straight-out parity amendment bill, I would support it, because I long have advocated this method of solving the school problem. And I believe the Legislature would pass it."

Senator Simpson said Henderson had conferred with him and other members of the Senate on the pending proposal and that he had urged Henderson to substitute a straight-out "parity" bill for the pending measure.

Meanwhile, leaders of Alabama school forces reportedly are split over the pending bill, even though it was strongly endorsed in a resolution adopted by the Alabama Education Association at the recent convention here.

Reports from persons close to Dr.

Editorial of the Day

THE KLAN AND FLOGGINGS

(From the Birmingham News.)

Imperial Wizard James A. Colescott, of the Ku Klux Klan, commenting on the charge that Klansmen had been involved in recent floggings in Georgia, denied that the Klan had anything to do with those cases and said a good Klansman would not participate in such.

The imperial wizard may be right. The public at large is not always sure just what constitutes a "good" Klansman.

But there is one thing of which the public is sure. An organization which permits its members to go forth masked, and the membership of which is secret, is a fertile field for various kinds of illegal or improper activities.

Neither the Klan nor any other organization can lay unchallenged claim to pure motives and honest conduct as long as its members may put a sheet around them and a hood over their heads and ride forth in secret to do whatever may seem to them desirable. The Klan will always be under suspicion as long as it is masked.

Mr. Colescott may suspend local Klan organizations and expel members for unauthorized conduct all he wishes, but the only lasting way to clear the Klan of charges of flogging is to unmask it.

KLAN'S RECORDS VANISH IN FACE OF TERROR QUIZ

Floggers Linked to Killings in Lovers' Lane.

Atlanta, Ga., March 23 [Special].—All records of a unit of the Ku Klux Klan in East Point, an Atlanta suburb, vanished mysteriously today as police sought to establish whether the klan was involved in a wave of night riding terrorism in which at least one person has been beaten to death and more than twenty others brutally flogged.

Police said letters requesting klan parades and the burning of fiery crosses, membership rolls, and other pertinent records disappeared with a small box kept in the klan's East Point assembly rooms.

Postoffice Box Involved.

Investigators also revealed thay had questioned postal officials about a postoffice box maintained by the East Point klan, and further disclosed that the full membership of the klan never had an opportunity to pass upon requests for parades or burning of fiery crosses. These requests, is was ascertained, were acted upon by a committee composed partly of men already linked with the series of floggings, it was reported.

Authorities announced that evidence has been uncovered strongly linking a band of floggers to the mysterious double murder of a young couple. Their bodies were found in a lonely lovers' lane near here a month ago.

It was also revealed that investigators have identified the maker of the lash with which Ike Gaston, an East Point, Ga., barber, was flogged to death two weeks ago.

The lovers' lane victims were Sarah Rawls, 20 years old, and Benton Ford, 24, of McDonough, Ga. Their bodies bore marks of a brutal beating. Investigators expressed belief that the slayers killed Ford accidentally while administering a whipping and then murdered the girl because she was a witness.

Capt. Ben W. Seabrook of the Atlanta police indentification bureau, and Dan Duke, assistant solicitor general of Fulton county [Atlanta], said they have grilled one of the key figures in the flogging inquiry and four of the suspect's fellow workers. Altho the officials refused to divulge names, it was learned that four of those questioned testified that the fifth fashioned the medieval style torture whip during odd hours at the Atlanta establishment where all are employed.

Used in Other Attacks.

The lash, they said, was made more than 18 months ago. It has been identified in at least two floggings other than the fatal whipping of Gaston, it was learned.

Floggers have been terrorizing persons in the Atlanta vicinity for more than a year. In addition to the slaying of Gaston, they are known to have brutally whipped more than 20 other persons.

A special county grand jury will resume its investigation of the whippings next week. Meanwhile, witnesses who appeared before the jurors on Friday and identified 14 persons as floggers are under special police protection.

Whippings By Ku Klux Klan Will Aid Lynch Bill Fight, Says American Legion Head

By BATER LEACH

ATLANTA, Ga.—Following closely the application of a red hot iron to the neck and back of a sixteen year-old race lad by a policeman there to force confession of guilt in the alleged stealing of a gymnasium ball, comes an investigation of the flogging to death of a Fulton County barber a few days ago by a 'committee' of four men, three members of which, witnesses testified, were on the staff of the Deputy County Sheriff.

These three men, according to witnesses at the flogging, tonight are members of a band which goes about the county "singing at churches, fish fries, chitlin' suppers and the like," and are also members of the East Point Ku Klux Klan. Relentless questioning by the Coroners brought for the disclosures that Fulton County Deputy Sheriff, W. W. Scarborough, is exalted cyclops or head officer of the Ku Klux Klan at East Point where the flogging took place.

The flogging and killing of the white barber aroused the American Legion of Georgia to action on Friday who through their leader demanded the "resignation, impeachment or recall of the Sheriff and said that aside from discouraging people and industry who would move into Georgia, "outrages such as these floggings would help more than anything the passage of the anti-lynch bill, which the South has been fighting for years."

Klan Organization In Birmingham Started

ATLANTA—(AP)—Imperial Wizard J. A. Colescott of the Ku Klux Klan said today work of organizing klan units throughout Alabama was "well under way."

A charter was granted a unit of several hundred members at Montgomery last January and "a new activity has been opened up" at Birmingham, Colescott disclosed.

"Organization work also has been carried out at Opelika, and the first report from Mobile received only a few days ago, shows that the work there is getting well along," said the high klansman.

"Two or three rural sections also are being organized, but these units haven't yet been fully developed."

He said klan rules prohibited him from revealing the number of klansmen in Alabama or the names of klan officials and organizers.

KLAN IS WARNED ON HIDING ROLLS

Matter Will Be of Direct Concern to Jury, Officials Make Clear.

Any effort of the Ku Klux Klan to withhold membership lists wanted for use in striking prospective jurors in forthcoming flogging trials, will become a matter of direct concern of the Fulton grand jury.

This was made clear officially yesterday as a statement issued by Imperial Wizard J. A. Colescott saying such use of lists would be "unfair and illegal," was compared with his numerous previous declarations of policy to co-operate fully with authorities and banish either offending klans or klansmen.

Colescott is slated to appear before the grand jury for a third time next week when an intensive "clean-up" session of two days and nights is to be held. On each of his previous appearances he has been asked for data and records in addition to the headquarters East Point Klan roster which served in the stead of local records reputedly destroyed.

Officials noted with considerable interest yesterday the wizard's declaration concerning the trials: "I see no more reason for barring Klansmen from the jury than there would be to bar Masons or members of other fraternities."

In preparation for next week's sessions, attaches of the grand jury resumed large-scale investigation of floggings and taking of testimony. It was known that additional cases were under scrutiny and that further efforts would be made to "break" the fatal beating of Ike Gaston in which already, it was understood, three men have been proved implicated.

First of the 10 Klansmen indicted last week to face trial will be Henry Cauthon and Dan Eidson. Cauthon is charged in 15 instances with assault with intent to murder and with kidnaping on one count, while Eidson has five of the former and one of the latter charges against him. Hearing is scheduled for April 17.

Cauthon, an East Point filling station operator, formerly was a special deputy sheriff.

False to Their Oath

James A. Colescott, imperial wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, in a statement issued after a meeting of the governing body of the Klan denounced recent floggings perpetrated in Fulton county by gangs of hoodlums and declared the Klan deplores such floggings as much as any citizen. He denies any official connection, by the Klan, with these outrages and promises, if any local branch of the organization is shown to have had anything to do with them, its charter will be revoked. He further asserts, if it is shown that any of the men ultimately found guilty of participation in the floggings are members of the Klan, they will be immediately dismissed from that membership.

All of which was to have been expected and is entirely satisfactory, as far as it goes.

There have been reports that the revelation of a series of flogging outrages, carried on in Fulton county for years and culminating in the death, as a result of such a flogging, of Ike Gaston, East Point barber, might result in complete disbanding of the Klan.

It is a question whether there is any logical reason for the existence of the Klan in modern society. It may, within its own organization and lodge rooms, serve some good purpose. It may, on the other hand, be nothing but a harmless example of "little boy" complex—that desire on the part of men, adult in years, to revert to the "make believe" activities of childhood. It may appease the yearning of insignifance, by making little men, under the anonymity of masks, feel they are, for the time being, creatures of awesome import and persons of dire importance. In other words, the mask permits those more used to plodding, to strut.

It is not, however, necessary to disband the Klan.

It is necessary, if public interest and public safety are to be served, for the Klan to discontinue its practice of appearing in public places with faces masked.

The Klan violates its own sworn oath when it permits any of its members to appear, outside the lodge room, wearing hoods, masks or any form of regalia which hides their individual identities.

For, according to Mr. Colescott himself, there is a clause in the Klan oath which reads:

"I most solemnly promise and swear that I will always, at all times and in all places, help, aid and assist the duly constituted officers of the law in the proper performance of their legal duties."

When Klansmen appear in public with their faces covered they are, in actual fact, "helping, aiding and assisting," the forces of the underworld to break the law, instead of supporting the law, as they are sworn. For they are creating a condition which tempts to scorn of law and which provides disguise under which men, so inclined, may enact vicious deeds of darkness, in direct violation of every principle of law and order, whether those criminals be actual Klansmen or not.

Granting, even, that the gangs of floggers who have disgraced the name of Fulton county have no official connection with the Klan, who can doubt their crimes were encouraged by the example set by hooded Klansmen parading and issuing "warnings" to various individuals to "leave town" or "lead a better life?"

Of course, that section of the Klan oath quoted by Mr. Colescott really means nothing in so far as special Klan significance is concerned. For it is a mere reiteration of the duty devolving upon every citizen. Everybody, regardless of Klan membership, is required under the common law to "help, aid and assist" in the proper enforcement of the law. If Klan membership, as asserted by Mr. Colescott, is confined to men of "sufficient moral standing," there is absolutely no need for such an oath. Such men are already observing its requirements.

No reasonable person will object to the existence of the Klan, for the enjoyment of all who think membership therein is worth the dues, if it confines its regalia and secret hocus-pocus within its own lodge rooms, just as other fraternal organizations.

But, just as long as the Klan persists in the use of masks in public places, so long is it encouraging lawlessness and providing opportunity for the easier perpetration of crime.

It is thus false to its own oath and to those same obligations which are part of the general duties of every citizen.

The Klan And Floggings

Imperial Wizard James A. Colescutt, of the Ku Klux Klan, commenting on the charge that Klansmen had been involved in recent floggings in Georgia, denies that the Klan had anything to do with those cases and said a good Klansman would not participate in such.

The imperial wizard may be right. The public at large is not always sure just what constitutes a "good" Klansman.

But there is one thing of which the public is sure. An organization which permits its members to go forth masked, and the membership of which is secret, is a fertile field for various kinds of illegal or improper activities.

Neither the Klan nor any other organization can lay unchallenged claim to pure motives and honest conduct as long as its members may put a sheet around them and a hood over their heads and ride forth in secret to do whatever may seem to them desirable. The Klan will always be under suspicion as long as it is masked.

Mr. Colescutt may suspend local Klan organizations and expel members for unauthorized conduct all he wishes, but the only lasting way to clear the Klan of charges of flogging is to unmask it.

Resignation Of Sheriff Mott Aldredge Urged

Fulton County Sheriff Mott Aldredge was asked Friday by American Legionnaire A. J. Allen white, of Atlanta, to resign, be recalled by the public or impeached because of alleged failure to investigate and prosecute wholesale flogging in the county.

Legionnaire Allen, who said he was speaking for the American Legion of Georgia, and other Legion leaders, warned that outrages, such as have been brought to light in the past few days concerning flogging activities, "will help more than anything the passage in Congress of the anti-lynch bll, which the South has been fighting for years."

Legion leaders warned further that respectable persons would think twice before moving into Georgia as long as such outrages exist, industry would be discouraged from moving into this state and the people of Georgia will be made to suffer unjustly."

METHODIST GROUP RAPS FLOGGINGS, ANY USE OF MASKS

'Disgraceful to Civilized People' and 'Humiliating to Community,' Conference Leaders Say

Condemnation of Fulton county's floggings, and an implied condemnation of the Ku Klux Klan was contained in a resolution passed yesterday by Methodist leaders in district conference at Grace Methodist church here.

Deploring and condemning the floggings as "disgraceful to a civilized people" and "humiliating to the community," the conference further resolved that:

"We deplore the use of masks by any group, for we believe it is a suggestion of other than legal methods and open courts for the apprehension and punishment of crime."

The resolution commended "the present efforts being made by the officers of the law to find and punish the perpetrators of these crimes," and urged that "the investigation continue until the individuals and groups found guilty shall be apprehended."

Passed unanimously, the resolution was introduced by the Rev. Nat G. Long, pastor of Glenn Memorial church, and was signed by Edward G. Mackay, First Methodist; Peter Manning, Inman Park; Paul A. Turner, Trinity; Lester Rumble, St. Mark; J. Lee Allgood, St. Paul; B. H. Smith, secretary of the American Bible Society; Mrs. Birdie V. Moore and Mrs. M. E. Tilly.

The conference elected Jere

Wells as lay leader for the district, with Dr. J. C. Wardlaw and W. L. Richards as associates, and James F. Cox as secretary.

Smith L. Johnson, Cherokee county layman, appealed to the ministers of Atlanta to lead a fight for the restoration of the prohibition law.

Declaring that bootlegging is now "50 times worse" than in prohibition days, Mr. Johnson, whose county is dry, declared:

"The repeal of the prohibition law in Georgia turned loose more hellishness than any other conceivable thing."

KU KLUX WIZARD AGAIN IS CALLED IN FLOGGING PROBE

Grand Jurors Allot Two Days Next Week for Further Investigation of Outrages.

Further inquiry into Fulton county flogging activities that may bring additional indictments is scheduled, Solicitor General Boykin said yesterday as he disclosed that the grand jury had set aside Wednesday and Thursday of next week for a continuance of the investigation and a requestioning of J. A. Colescott, imperial wizard of the Ku Klux Klan.

The grand jury already has returned 13 indictments against 10 persons, all of whom were identified as members of the Ku Klux Klan.

More than 40 witnesses were interviewed by members of the solicitor's staff yesterday, as they prepared for the "big grind" next week.

Talks With Wizard.

Other developments yesterday follow:

Imperial Wizard Colescott conferred with Solicitor General Boykin about additional evidence which he has agreed to furnish the grand jury.

Solicitor Boykin said Colescott came in response to a grand jury summons for additional information. He said after this meeting was postponed until next week, he talked to the wizard about Klan records.

Warren Scarbrough, Fulton county deputy sheriff and grand cyclops of the East Point Klan chapter, whose name has been mentioned frequently in connection with the floggings, yesterday was linked with a 37-year-old flogging incident in Old Campbell county.

Named in Bill.

In linking his name with the Campbell county incidents, records at the courthouse disclosed that Scarbrough was named in a grand jury true bill charging riot. The indictment was returned August 4, 1903.

The indictment set out that Scarbrough and others, "with force and arms did, acting in execution of a common interest, violently assault and beat Arthur Vickery, the same being unlawful acts of violence, and did otherwise act in a violent and tumultuous manner, the same constituting an aggrevatual riot."

Scarbrough pleaded to assault and battery charges and was fined $60 and given eight months. The sentence was suspended on payment of the fine.

Change in Klan Chief's Attitude Indicated in Flog Developments

Colescott Statement on 'Confession' Not Authorized by Solicitor's Office; New Evidence Sheds No Light on Gaston Case, Duke Says.

Events yesterday in connection with the probe of floggings were interpreted by persons close to the grand jury as showing a significant change of tactics on the part of the high command of the Ku Klux Klan.

Regarded as alarmed by developments within the secret organization since ten known Klansmen were indicted—one indication of which was the dropping in attendance from 375 to 20 members suffered in one month by one unit—Imperial Wizard James A. Colescott caused publication of an incident of the previous day which presented him in the position of assisting actively in revealing Klan secrets where they bore on floggings.

About Face

Until yesterday it had been Colescott's settled policy to back up the East Point Klan, it was pointed out by officials. He had declared "indictments don't mean anything" when ten of his followers there were named in true bills as floggers; he had questioned the right of the grand jury to enable membership rosters ot be used for striking talesmen in the forthcoming flogging trials; he had said no action would be taken against Klansmen kidnapers and lash-wielders until they were convicted in court.

Yesterday's statement which Colescott had published was described verbally by Assistant Solicitor General Daniel Duke as "highly colored and misleading," and about which he issued a formal statement, quoted an unnamed self-confessed officer of the East Point Klan as follows:

"I went to Mr. Colescott and told him I had lied to the grand jury. I told the wizard that my conscience hurt me and I couldn't sleep at night. Mr. Colescott told me to go straight to the courthouse and tell Mr. Boykin (the solicitor general) everything I knew."

Constitution Upheld.

The confessing Klan officer's testimony was to the effect that the beatings were discussed on the Klan floor at meetings and thus were "virtually a part of the ritual," as set forth in The Constitution of March 30.

It was made clear by the solicitor general's office that the story about the witness recanting could have emanated only from the headquarters of Wizard Colescott.

Duke's formal statement read as follows:

" 'This office prefers not to state in the press what any individual witness has stated to us, and did not make any such announcement of such a confession in this instance. However, since it has been published, I wish to make this correction: That an officer of the Klan did come to the office yesterday and made a voluntary statement, which shed considerable light upon a number of floggings, but his statement did not cover any evidence in connection with the Ike Gaston case.' "

An average of 15 witnesses have been examined daily by county police and Solicitor General Boykins' staff since the flogging probe was put under way. Each has been assured of secrecy and protection as a necessary part of allaying fear.

To this end the solicitor's office repeatedly has urged against any publication which would tend to make other possible witnesses fear there was a leak in the prosecutor's office and thus become reluctant to offer essential aid to the investigation.

This Is Significant

A white man went to the office of the United States district court clerk to tell that he had been warned to "leave town" not later than Saturday, a warning that came after the Ku Klux Klan had paraded before his home.

The man declared he was afraid to make his complaint and appeal for protection to Fulton county officials and he was, therefore, sent to the FBI.

A deputy sheriff of Fulton county has been identified as one among an outlaw gang which flogged a citizen of Fulton county. Other deputies have been named as Klansmen.

Officials of the Klan have denied responsibility for the floggings and have stated that any member of their order proven guilty of this crime will be banished from membership.

It may never be possible to present proof making the Ku Klux Klan legally responsible for these whipping outrages. Yet, there can be no doubt in the mind of any reasoning person that the Klan practice of appearing masked in public provides the condition which makes mob outrage possible. It is impossible to distinguish, when robes and hoods are worn, between law-abiding citizens who are merely members of a secret order, and hoodlums who are in the habit of defying the law and making the justice of American courts a mockery.

The Klan, admittedly, makes a practice of parading before the homes of those who, it has decided, are not "leading the right kind of lives." Under what divine dispensation they assume the right of judgment upon fellow citizens has not been disclosed.

But, when such "warning parades" are staged by masked men, when fiery crosses are planted before their victims' homes by these hooded unknowns and when men, white or colored, are warned to leave town within a given number of days, it is but a short step to resort to physical violence in event the warning is ignored.

There is much that is whispered, much that is general knowledge, about the Klan and its activities that has not as yet been brought out in any official inquiry. Much of this is withheld because those with the information are afraid of reprisal if they appear as witnesses.

Where there is such fear, there must be reason for it.

The man who says he received a warning to "leave town" last Wednesday, since the investigation began, admitted he did not dare tell his story to county officials, hence he appealed to a representative of the United States court for protection.

There is utmost significance in that fear. There is, also, an indictment of the local law enforcement authorities which carries blackest reproach to all Fulton county. It is an indictment which must be answered if this county is to regain its self-respect as a community of law-abiding citizens and a place fit to enjoy the blessings of freedom in this democracy.

Social Responsibility

Ever since the first asking of that most searching of questions, "Am I my brother's keeper?" Christian society has accepted the premise that not only human society as a whole, but the individual units thereof, must be held responsible for the misfortunes of the underprivileged and the sufferings of the weak.

Not only from the professionally Christian view, however, but from the view of secular government as it is conceived in a democracy, men and women are directly responsible for the unfairness that life too frequently visits upon others.

The very basis of democracy as it is expressed in the fundamental law of the United States is equality of opportunity and protection against injustice, exploitation and insecurity of the person.

It is of comparatively recent date, however, that society as a whole, through its servant and agent, the government, has attempted to meet the problems of the underprivileged and unfortunate in wholesale attack. It is the recognition of this obligation and the subsequent efforts to cure the ills of the lower groups of the social order, that has plunged this nation into vast spending programs for relief, for pensions and for help to those who cannot help themselves.

Prior to this assumption of the burden of charity by government, it was a more personal thing, a helping hand extended by neighbor to neighbor, by a church to the poverty stricken in its own area.

It is not proposed, here, to discuss the comparative advantages of the two methods. It should be plain, however, that if the assumption of responsibility by government results in destroying the impulse to generosity in individuals, something vital and important has been taken out of life. Charity dispensed through the tax collector can never take the place of understanding, individual help in the manner of the Good Samaritan.

It has recently been revealed that in one county of Georgia there are 1,500 school children suffering so seriously from malnutrition they are constant prey to disease and are concededly deficient in important factors of bodily strength. These children are the offspring of the worst depression years, many of them dating their deficiencies from prenatal bodily lacks. They are the children of mothers who were semi-starved for many months before the children were born.

It is, surely, the responsibility of society as a whole to see that, in so far as possible, this unfair handicap is lifted from those innocent children. It is, equally, the responsibility of the individual to remedy that condition in so far as the children of his neighbor are concerned.

It is the responsibility of Atlanta and Fulton county society, as a whole, to see that proper provision is made for the feeding and shelter of those pitiful ones here who can hope for sustenance only through public relief.

Atlanta, as a whole, must bear the responsibility for the cruelty and injustice wreaked on that Negro boy who, it is charged, was tortured at police station in effort to secure a confession to a crime which, it now appears probable, he did not commit. All Atlanta must see that there can be no repetition of such a crime by any officer.

It is society as a whole which must accept ultimate responsibility for the horrible flogs- continue to exist. The man who takes part in gings which have been perpetrated by gangs of the flogging of another, for any reason, or who outlaws within this county. Whether the condones such things, is a traitor to every principle of Americanism and an enemy to th viciousness and degeneracy which breed such ideals of government for which we all proress monstrous outrages result from physical or such loyalty. mental disease, from lack of education, or from other cause, it is the responsibility of society to root out the evil and to uncover the cause.

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American democracy faces a far more serious peril from within her own land and in her own citizenry, while such things as these continue to exist. The man who takes part in the flogging of another, for any reason, or who condones such things, is a traitor to every principle of Americanism and an enemy to the ideals of government for which we all profess such loyalty.

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False to Their Oath

James A. Colescott, imperial wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, in a statement issued after a meeting of the governing body of the Klan denounced recent floggings perpetrated in Fulton county by gangs of hoodlums and declared the Klan deplores such floggings as much as any citizen. He denies any official connection by the Klan, with these outrages and promises, if any local branch of the organization is shown to have had anything to do with them, its charter will be revoked. He then asserts, if it is shown that any of the men ultimately found guilty of participation in the floggings are members of the Klan, they will be immediately dismissed from that membership.

All of which was to have been expected and is entirely satisfactory, as far as it goes.

There have been reports that the revelation of a series of flogging outrages, carried on in Fulton county for years and culminating in the death, as a result of such a flogging, of Ike Gaston, East Point barber, might result in complete disbanding of the Klan.

It is a question whether there is any logical reason for the existence of the Klan in modern society. It may, within its own organization and lodge rooms, serve some good purpose. It may, on the other hand, be nothing but a harmless example of "little boy" complex—that desire on the part of men, adult in years, to revert to the "make believe" activities of childhood. It may appease the yearning of insignifance, by making little men, under the anonymity of masks, feel they are, for the time being, creatures of awesome import and persons of dire importance. In other words, the mask permits those more used to plodding, to strut.

It is not, however, necessary to disband the Klan.

It is necessary, if public interest and public safety are to be served, for the Klan to discontinue its practice of appearing in public places with faces masked.

The Klan violates its own sworn oath when it permits any of its members to appear, outside the lodge room, wearing hoods, masks or any form of regalia which hides their individual identities.

For, according to Mr. Colescott himself, there is a clause in the Klan oath which reads:

"I most solemnly promise and swear that I will always, at all times and in all places, help, aid and assist the duly constituted officers of the law in the proper performance of their legal duties."

When Klansmen appear in public with their faces covered they are, in actual fact, "helping, aiding and assisting," the forces of the underworld to break the law, instead of supporting the law, as they are sworn. For they are creating a condition which tempts to scorn of law and which provides disguise under which men, so inclined, may enact vicious deeds of darkness, in direct violation of every principle of law and order, whether those criminals be actual Klansmen or not.

Granting, even, that the gangs of floggers who have disgraced the name of Fulton county have no official connection with the Klan, who can doubt their crimes were encouraged by the example set by hooded Klansmen parading and issuing "warnings" to various individuals to "leave town" or "lead a better life?"

Of course, that section of the Klan oath quoted by Mr. Colescott really means nothing, in so far as special Klan significance is concerned. For it is a mere reiteration of the duty devolving upon every citizen. Everybody, regardless of Klan membership, is required under the common law to "help, aid and assist" in the proper enforcement of the law. If Klan membership, as asserted by Mr. Colescott, is confined to men of "sufficient moral standing," there is absolutely no need for such an oath. Such men are already observing its requirements.

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Wizard To Disband Klans Taking Part In Recent Floggings

Burning Crosses Also Is Deplored By Leader Of Secret Organization

ATLANTA—(AP)—Imperial Wizard James A. Colescott, of the Ku Klux Klan, said today he would "disband at once" any local klan organization guilty of taking part in recent floggings in this community.

"Even an individual member of the klan, convicted of taking part in a flogging, would be dismissed immediately," Colescott said in an interview.

"I would not consider such a man a good citizen or a man of character."

The imperial wizard returned to Atlanta from a Florida trip to confer yesterday with klan representatives from other parts of the country.

Eleven of the 15 members of "the kloncilium," as the governing body is called were here for the one-day session, originally called for discussion of a general program.

"We did take up the local floggings, however," Colescott said, "and discussed them thoroughly, but took no official action. My personal investigation has failed to disclose that the klan as an organization had any part in the floggings."

He said he had no information as to action of individual members.

Colescott said he was "determined to stop unauthorized klan action," however, and added he removed several officers in Miami last November for permitting the burning of crosses to intimidate Negroes.

Flogging Trial Of Dan Eidson Set for Today

Five Assault and Battery Counts Face Alleged 'Whip Maker.'

Dan Eidson, accused of being the whip-maker of the East Point flogging band in the trial of Henry Cauthon, convicted "wrecking crew boss," is scheduled to face a jury today in Fulton superior court on five charges of assault and battery.

The pale, smallish electrotyper, still in his 20's, is accused in the floggings of P. S. Toney, Scottdale CIO organizer, in which Cauthon was found guilty, and of a Negro, George Grooms, as well as in the beatings of Bert Harris, Joe Otwell and J. W. Wilkes.

Often Mentioned.

Eidson was referred to frequently by the prosecution throughout the Cauthon trial, and was mentioned in confessions on the stand by W. C. Bishop, admitted "crew" member, and Luke L. Trimble, secretary of the East Point Ku Klux Klan, who admitted two floggings.

All of the offenses with which Eidson is charged are alleged to have been committed in the last three years, during which the south Fulton "regulators" were active.

Solicitor General John A. Boykin and his assistant, Daniel Duke, will prosecute, while John Hudson, former assistant solicitor general, will act as defense counsel. Hudson and an aide carefully followed testimony in the Cauthon trial, taking numerous notes.

Judge Walter C. Hendrix, presiding in the criminal division, is scheduled to conduct the trial.

Under established procedure, two panels, or 24 talesmen, will be drawn. The state will have five strikes and the defense seven. The remaining 12 men will constitute the trial jury, unless there are additional strikes for "cause."

May Show Strap.

If methods followed in the Cauthon trial are adopted, the heavy black strap, with cleats bradded into the middle and having a large wooden handle, found beside the lifeless, severely beaten form of Ike Gaston March 7, will be offered to witnesses for identification. A smaller whip, the origin of which was not explained, also was displayed frequently by the prosecution in the Cauthon trial, which resulted in an 18-month sentence and $1,000 fine for the defendant.

Atlanta Police Move To Link Klan Whippers To Dual Slaying

ATLANTA, March 15.—(AP)—City police attempted today to link a Ku Klux Klan "whipping crew" to a recent dual slaying, and an American Legionnaire demanded the resignation of Sheriff Mott Aldredge, claiming he failed to curb floggings and tolerated klansmen among his deputies.

While the Fulton County Grand Jury awaited eight or 10 new bills of indictment in a score of flogging cases uncovered by the fatal beating of an East Point barber last week, Solicitor General John Boykin said he was investigating reports of several more lashings administered to labor organizers.

Police Captain Ben W. Seabrook expressed conviction night riding terrorists killed attractive Sarah Rawls and husky Benton Ford in a lover's lane near McDonough two weeks ago.

"I already have strong evidence indicating that a whipping crew was drawn into the case by the jealousy of a close relative of one of the klansmen," he said.

Seabrook said it was his theory that four klansmen, who also are suspected in the East Point whipping cases, trailed the couple to the isolated lane in the belief that Ford was another man, rival of their friend for the affections of Miss Rawls.

When they attempted to lash Ford, a powerful man, he resisted so strongly they killed him in the fight and then bludgeoned the girl to death because she knew each of them, Seabrook theorized.

He said he already had questioned the suspected men and was keeping them under surveillance. He appealed to friends and relatives of the slain pair to give him all the information they had, promising protection against reprisal with which he was certain they had been threatened.

A. J. Allen of Atlanta, chairman of the American Legion's Americanism committee for the Fifth Georgia Area, made public a letter he sent to Fulton County Sheriff Aldredge charging that he had failed in his duty by not halting terrorism and by allowing his deputies to play active parts in Klan affairs.

Sheriff Aldredge replied that he had no intention of resigning and denied Allen was speaking for the Legion.

Meanwhile, the solic[illegible] general, seeking material for the grand jury on the flogging cases, said new evidence included that concerning reported whippings of textile union organizers, including one case in near- by Douglas County where two men were beaten after making a speech at a Labor Day meeting.

REWARD OFFERED IN FLOGGING CASE

Judge Underwood Charges Federal Jury To Protect Civil Liberties

ATLANTA, March 11 (AP)—Investigating machinery set in motion by recent lawlessness turned at a faster clip today after a federal grand jury was charged to protect civil liberties and the state offered a $250 reward for solution of a fatal flogging.

U. S. District Judge Marvin Underwood in his charge to the incoming jury made no specific reference to recent cases but said "apparent recurrence of group outrages and violations of civil rights" were matters within the federal domain and of deep concern to national as well as state government.

By "group outrages" it was assumed he had reference to the fatal flogging last week of Isaac Gaston, East Point barber, by a band of night-riding vigilantes. This case came in lethal climax to a number of less serious beatings.

It also was learned that the federal grand jury had summoned several witnesses in connection with the reported burning of a young Negro prisoner last week by an officer seeking to force a confession in a minor burglary.

While Judge Underwood applauded in his charge "the spontaneous outburst of public indignation at recent violations of civil rights," Gov. E. D. Rivers announced posting of the $250 reward — maximum possible under state law—in the Gaston case.

Fulton County Solicitor John Boykin said he would ask that the county commissioners post a like reward and would co-operate with the county grand jury in clearing up not only the Gaston case but other floggings brought to light in the wake of this killing.

Four Men Are Indicted In East Point Flogging

Atlanta Officer Charged With Violating Bill of Rights In Torture Case

ATLANTA, March 12 (AP)—State and federal governments struck with indictments today to protect civil liberties trampled by private terrorism and reported police brutality.

The Fulton county grand jury indicted four men on charges of assault with intent to murder, accusing all of them of participating in one flogging and charging one with a part in another vigilante beating.

The federal grand jury, specifically charged yesterday with protection of civil liberties, indicted an Atlanta city policeman, charging that he violated constitutional rights by torturing a young Negro to obtain a confession in a minor burglary.

Four Are Named

First concrete result of popular indignation stirred by the fatal flogging of Isaac Gaston last week was the state indictment naming Charlie Watts, Claud Campbell, W. C. Amerson and Clifton Golden. This true bill accused these four of beating T. E. Young, of suburban East Point last July.

Another true bill alleged Watts was one of several men who whipped S. W. Jones of nearby Clayton county last March.

These floggings were two of several instances of night-riding terrorism disclosed soon after Gaston's beaten body was found in a farm field last week. The death of Gaston, an East Point barber, is not yet before the jury, pending completion of police inquiry.

Bond for each of the four men indicted by the state today was set at $5,000 and county police were instructed to pick them up at once. All live in or near East Point, an industrial suburb.

Suspended Patrolman W. F. Sutherland was named in a three-count indictment which said he beat 16-year-old Quintar South and burned him with a hot iron at police headquarters while trying to make the young Negro confess a part in a gymnasium burglary in which the chief loot was a basketball. South subsequently was cleared of the charge.

A state assault and battery charge was returned against Sutherland last week after a white woman for whom South had worked brought the case to the grand jury. Police Chief M. A. Hornsby suspended Sutherland and promised a rigid curb on third degree methods.

The state indictment is for a misdemeanor and carries a maximum sentence of six months but the federal cases could bring a possible 12 years in prison and were described at the district attorney's office as among "the most serious federal charges."

Sutherland is at liberty under $500 bond in the state case and bond in the federal indictments was set at $2,000.

The Gaston case brought to light several non-fatal floggings not previously reported to police and stirred widespread demand for a "clean up" of such lawlessness. Among those asking a chance to testify was another suburban barber who told of having been beaten by five men 12 years ago in the same field where Gaston's scourged body was found. The state offered a $250 reward for solution of the case.

Gaston's widow came to a newspaper office to say the men who killed her husband had wrecked her life—Gaston had a record of drunkenness and had been accused of wife beating and this apparently was the pretext for flogging him with a heavy, four-foot leather strap.

In his charge to the incoming grand jury yesterday, U. S. District Judge E. Marvin Underwood struck at "group outrages" as well as other violations of civil rights and it was assumed federal attention would be turned to the floggings.

EAST POINT LEGION ATTACKS FLOGGING

Veterans, Auxiliary Seek Perpetrators' Arrest.

At a joint meeting of the East Point Post, American Legion, and the Legion Auxiliary on Monday night, at which Mrs. George Harris, state Americanization chairman of the auxiliary, spoke, the followmg resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Whereas—It has been brought to the attention of American Legion Post No. 51, of East Point, that many whippings and one murder have taken place in our community, and

"Whereas — Such things have been the occasion for all self-respecting citizens to hang their heads in shame, now

"Therefore—Be it resolved, that this post go on record as condemning such lawlessness and offering its aid to the law enforcement agencies of our state, county and city in bringing to justice those guilty of such outrages."

The commander of the East Point Legion post is Allgood McDuffie.

BARBER APPEALS FOR PROTECTION IN 'KLAN THREAT'

Declares Warning Followed Parade Before Home Wednesday Night; Is Sent to FBI.

By WILLARD COPE.

Fulton county's probe of floggings headed back into the secrecy of the grand jury room yesterday, with early prospect of eight to ten indictments. The day's developments were:

1. A white man who said he was an Egan Park barber appeared in the office of F. L. Beers Jr., deputy clerk of the United States district court, and appealed for protection, saying the Ku Klux Klan had paraded before his home Wednesday night and he had been warned to leave town by Saturday. Beers sent him to FBI agents when the man declared he was afraid to approach county officials.

Aldredge Stand.

2. Sheriff Aldredge, three of whose deputies were named as Klansmen at the coroner's inquest Wednesday into the fatal beating of Ike Gaston, said he would suspend them if they were indicted by the grand jury, but not before. The sheriff deprecated identification of Deputy Herb Eidson by a Stonewall victim as having been among those who beat him.

3. Assistant Solicitor General Daniel Duke, whose vigorous examination at the inquest produced sensational testimony of flogging activities, was active in the Fairburn region on a secret mission in connection with the probe.

4. Persistent reports from reliable quarters were that a fire engine of a suburban fire department had been used as often as three times a week in demonstrations in the Egan Park mill district. All occupants of the machine, including the driver, were said to have been robed in Klan regalia.

Two Demand Trial.

5. Demand for trial was filed for Charlie Watts and Clifton Golden, under indictment in the flogging case, by their attorney, John Hudson. Both are in Fulton Tower in default of $5,000 bail. This means they must be tried not later than the May term of superior court.

6. Sheriff Aldredge said he would not take advantage of the offer of aid made by James A. Colescott, imperial wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, on the day following discovery of Gaston's lifeless body in a field three miles from Ben Hill.

Colescott, replying from Miami to a Constitution inquiry as to the official Klan stand in the light of Wednesday's revelations, declared in a telegram:

"I stated last week that the Ku Klux Klan would assist the officers of the law in the apprehension and conviction of the people responsible for flogging.

"Your question of how and when must be suggested by the officers of the law and my action must be in co-operation with them, as I am not a trained officer of the law and know nothing about such procedure."

A regular session of the grand jury will be held today, and it was believed testimony adduced at the coroner's inquest might be made the basis of final action.

Coroner Paul Donehoo, expressing satisfaction with the results of his searching inquiry, said a complete copy of the testimony would be furnished the solicitor general's office, and would be available to Sheriff Aldredge.

Told Cauthon Of Flog Perils, Friend Asserts

Roy Davis Testifies He Saw Belt; State Rests Case.

By WILLARD COPE.

A witness who said he regarded Henry Cauthon as one of his best friends testified yesterday that when he warned Cauthon he would "surely get in trouble" if he took part in floggings, Cauthon replied: "You'd be surprised at the ones who are back of all this."

Continuing his quittal, the witness, Roy Davis, automobile parts salesman and a motor instructor in the Georgia Tech evening school, declared Cauthon told him of saving him from a flogging in June, 1938. He said Cauthon at another time declared a deputy's badge Davis lent him had "come in handy on seevral occasions"; that he had seen a leather belt about 36 inches long, without a handle, in Cauthon's automobile, and that after an unidentified drunk driver had wrecked an automobile, Cauthon observed:

"I guess we'll have to get the wrecking crew and straighten him out. We're not going to allow things like that to go on."

The state, represented by Solicitor General John A. Boykin and his assistant, Daniel Duke, rested its case in 16 assault and battery charges against Cauthon shortly after 2 o'clock. The trial had been in progress since 9:30 o'clock Wednesday morning.

Defense Attorney Reuben Garland immediately launched into argument attacking each of the counts of the long indictment. Judge Hugh M. Dorsey, presiding in superior court, released the jury to their quarters until tomorrow morning and heard the arguments of both sides in his library.

The state abandoned four counts, involving the beatings of J. T. Fuqua, Bert Harris, W. L. Pennington and L. G. Rainwater, because Floyd Lee, former "wrecking crew boss," declined to turn state's evidence as had been expected by Boykin. Trial will resume on the remaining counts.

Further testimony that Cauthon took part in the wave of flogging outrages was presented by state's witnesses during the day. Just before the close Boykin offered in evidence a written oath signed by Cauthon when he was made a special deputy sheriff March 31, 1938. It was pointed out by a spokesman for the sheriff's office that Cauthon at that time was operating a junk yard and posted $1,000 bond. He did not seek to renew the commission when it expired eight months later.

Cauthon Named.

Cauthon was named by Mrs. Margaret Andrews, daughter of 65-year-old W. L. Allen, flog victim, formerly of Oakland City, as having come to the Allen home and warned her father to move a Negro from his premises "or they would take my daddy out." Later Allen was flogged.

Use by his attackers of two automobiles with Fulton county emblems was sworn to by another victim, G. W. Wright, who said they tried to dispossess him from a house near Stonewall. Wright said he had but recently been taken from a plaster cast after an accident in which both legs were broken and his spine permanently injured. The floggers represented themselves as officers, he said.

The witness swore he recognized three men whom he called Herb Eidson, George Whitehead and "Shorty" Andrews. Boykin caused him to identify Eidson and Whitehead as "county officers," and Andrews as an East Point policeman.

Cauthon was named also by two Negro victims, George Grooms and John Cannon. A white man Tom Parker, now serving a term for wife-beating, said Cauthon and a companion threatened him in February, 1939, and that he was flogged in June.

NIGHT RIDING GA. FLOGGER IS SENTENCED

Committee Thinks Judge Was Too Easy On The Masked Hoodlum

Conviction of an Atlanta Ku Klux Klansman for flogging a white C.I.O. organizer increases the chances of public opinion forcing the department of justice to prosecute the notorious Oglethorpe county, Ga., peonage ring.

This was the gist of a statement made this week by the Abolish Peonage committee of the International Labor Defense after an Atlanta jury on Friday had assessed a sentence of one year on the chain gang plus six months in jail and a $1,000 fine against Klan Chieftain Homer Cauthon.

Cauthon was found guilty of flogging P S. Toney who had been organizing workers emloyed by an East Point (Ga.) cotton mill into a CIO union. The Atlanta suburb of East Point has been the center of the Klan's reign of terror in Fulton county, Ga., with more than a score of Race members, poor whites and trade unionists having been killed or flogged by hooded men.

South Awakens

Characterizing the sentence assessed against Cauthon, a respectable garage owner by day and a masked terrorist by night, as having been too light, the committee, through its executive secretary, William L. Patterson, said in part:

"The conviction of Cauthon shows that the people of the South are beginning to understand the dark forces of repression back of the Ku Klux Klan. It shows also that they are fighting these forces which have as their chosen victims both the South's Negroes and poor whites.

"We feel that the sentence was much too light, and is a reflection of the failure of the federal government to take any action against the Klan outlaws who terrorize the people both of Georgia and South Carolina. We hope that the people of Georgia will demand heavier punishment for the remaining 16 Klansmen who are under indictment, and that Cauthon will receive the maximum sentence of 20 years for kidnapping Toney.

"Public Opinion Will Not Rest"

"We feel however that the same public opinion that resulted in the conviction of Cauthon will not rest until William T. Cunningham and his associates in the notorious Oglethorpe county peonage ring are put behind the bars.

"Only last week, white young people of the Northern Georgia Congregational Christian church demanded in a resolution that Attorney General Jackson prosecute these debt slavers. The committee feels also that these floggings in Georgia and South Carolina demonstrate the necessity for immediate enactment of the Federal anti-lynch bill which Senator Walter F. George of Georgia, is helping to obstruct."

On March 25 ,Assistant Attorney General O. John Rogge, agreed at a conference in Washington to investigate peonage in Oglethorpe county, Georgia, and Ku Klux Klan floggings in South Carolina. Present at this conference with Rogge were representatives of the Abolish Peonage committee, the National Negro Congress, and the Negro Elks.

10 Klansmen Arrested In Ga. Flogging

ATLANTA, April 12—Ten members of the terrorist Ku Klux Klan were under arrest this week in connection with a series of 22 floggings in the city suburbs the past two years. The Klansmen were indicted by the Fulton Grand Jury on charges ranging from kidnaping to assault with intent to murder.

Among the indicted men were two deputy sheriffs, Herb Edison and Ed Burdette. The two peace officers appeared voluntarily at police headquarters and posted $5,000 bonds each.

The two men were still on the force at the time of their indictment, although they were given indefinite leaves of absence March 22 when it became evident that the Grand Jury was doing something about the reign of terror.

The Klan's Imperial Wizard James A. Colescott, appeared before the Grand Jury this week, presumably with all the Klan records which he had been ordered to bring.

Investigation of the whippings was opened four weeks ago, following the death by flogging of Ike Gaston, a white East Point barber. The present indictments, however, have no connection with the Gaston murder, Solicitor General John A. Boykin said.

"These indictments only scratch the surface and more sensational developments may be expected within a few days," Boykin declared.

Flogged Man's Daughter Tells Jurors of Ruse

Constitution

Alleen Toney Says Woman Informed Her Cau

thon Was 'Boy Friend'

Young and pretty Alleen Toney of Scottdale, easily the belle of the flogging trial witnesses, told the jury yesterday of her brief career as a cosmetics salesman.

It began April 5, she testified, when Mrs. Ruby Hines McConnell, investigator for Defense Attorney Reuben Garland, came to her home and gave her a case of samples and told her to take orders on a 40 per cent commission basis.

The young witness, arrayed in a smart red jacket which set off her light hair, dark bright eyes and full lips, said she gave Mrs. McConnell several references, whereupon the visitor obligingly waived the $5 deposit that she said normally was required.

Never Returned.

The newly invested young merchant then sallied forth among the neighbors and obtained four or five orders for face powder and other feminine beauty aids. Mrs. McConnell, however, did not return to receive the orders—and yesterday Alleen found out why.

It was all a ruse— a "scheme," as Attorney Garland described it to Judge Hugh M. Dorsey—to gain admittance to Alleen's house so she might talk to her father, P. S. Toney, a union organizer for the CIO, about whether he could identify Henry Cauthon, Garland's client, as one of the men who helped to kidnap and flog Toney August 1, 1938.

"We don't deny it," said Garland. "It was done with a purpose."

Mentioned Floggings.

While she was in the house Mrs. McConnell, who was accompanied by another investigator, Ernie Akridge, mentioned the floggings, volunteered information that she once had been a newspaper reporter and said she had believed "all this was publicity."

Also, declared Alleen, the woman visitor said she wanted to know what the facts were because she intended to "bring it up before the Woman's Club and the Eastern Star."

Her father didn't talk much, despite all this, Alleen declared, whereupon Mrs. McConnell opened the sample case and brought out two photographs of Henry Cauthon.

"He's my boy friend," Alleen said she explained to her and Toney. "There are some who say he's connected with these floggings, and I want you to look at these pictures and see if he's one of them."

Toney obliged, according to his daughter, and remarked:

"Looks like I've seen him before."

Soon afterward the visitors departed.

Flogged at Dump.

Toney, who testified Thursday said he was taken in a "tan Oldsmobile" from Scottdale to the East Point city dump for the flogging. Solicitor General John A. Boykin put into the record a certificate of ownership of such a car ascribed to "Cauthon and Davis" and signed by Cauthon.

Another of yesterday's witnesses, Melvin Medaris, 205½ Peters street, described the T. E. Young kidnaping of July 23, 1939, and testified that if Cauthon "wasn't one of the men I saw it was his twin brother." He said that after the flogging investigation started he was taken to Attorney Garland's office in the Candler building, where he was confronted with Cauthon.

He declared his failure to identify Cauthon as one of Young's captors then was due to fear: "A man would say anything at a time like that."

Garland made every effort to apprehend the attackers of G. W. Wright, cripple who was flogged June 22, 1938, and served Wright without charging a fee, it was brought out in Wright's examination.

DEACON PLEADS FOR FREEDOM IN KLAN FLOGGINGS

Journal

Then He Sobs, Wife Sobs, and Lawyer Dries a Tear

BY MARCIA WINN.

Atlanta, Ga., April 24. — Henry Cauthon, his red head bowed in prayerful mien, today denied he had a hand in the merciless flogging of nine of his neighbors.

Cauthon told the jury, before whom he is being tried on ten counts of assault and battery, that he prayed God they would find him not guilty. He told them he had been "framed." He told them he wanted to go home to his wife and little ones. He told them he didn't have enough education to make a good speech, and then, stepping down, he burst into tears. So did his wife. So did his brothers. So did his attorney.

Georgia's maximum penalty for assault and battery is one year's servitude on the chain gang, known in polite circles as the public works camp, six months in jail and $1,000 fine. When the name "public works camp" was decreed, stripes were banned, but they still are worn—black and white. Cauthon today wore a navy blue suit and white shirt.

Blamed for Terrorism.

Cauthon, a slender, pinch-nosed man of 33 with death's head cheeks and bespectacled eyes, a deacon in the Baptist church, is the alleged chief of the Ku Klux Klan whipping crew in East Point, a backwash suburb of Atlanta. As such he is thought to have directed the reign of terror which the Klan conducted in East Point until the death, at the hands of floggers, of a barber named Ike Gaston on March 7.

Cauthon's speech, coming at the close of his defense, was a surprise move. It galvanized the crowded court room, the sullen, dark eyed men on the front rows, the giggly women in the back, the morbidly curious lined against the walls. He took the stand as a pleader, rather than a witness, and so was subjected to no examination.

"Gentlemen of the jury," he began, in a low mumble, flinging one arm over the back of the witness chair.

Ordered to Speak Louder.

"Just a minute, Henry," Defense Attorney Reuben Garland interrupted gently. "Talk out loud so the jury can hear."

"Gentlemen of the jury," Cauthon began again. "I am not guilty of any of these indictments that they have hung on me. Here some weeks ago Mr. Duke [Daniel Duke, assistant prosecutor] came to my home town, went to the school where my children go to school. He tried to poison people's minds against me.

"Gentlemen, I never have been in no trouble in my life. I do hope and pray the Lord that you gentlemen will let me go back to my wife and children and to my friends, because I am not guilty. I have been framed.

"Mr. Trimble [Luke Trimble, secretary of the East Point Klan, who was a state's witness against Cauthon] got no the stand and told lies.

"Bishop [W. C. Bishop, another Klansman who testified against him] told lies.

Brands Accusers Liars.

"Now I trust the Lord you will let me go to my loved ones, a free man. That's all I have to say, because I haven't got enough education to make a speech.

"Gentlemen, this Roy Davis [a Georgia Tech instructor, who testified for the state] died about me. He never has seen no strop [the black leathe whip of the klan] in my car in his life. I am confidential that he got his statement from some one who made it up. I would swear he got up here and told a lie on me.

"Gentlemen, as I say, I haven't a good education. I can't make a speech because I've worked hard all my life, because I ain't never had an opportunity to go to school. I was taken out when I was 12 years old to help my daddy, so I do hope to the Lord you will return a verdict of not guilty and let me go home to my wife and little ones."

All Begin to Sob.

That was all. It came without hitch or hesitation, words tumbling like bullets into the tense and silent court.

Cauthon then went back to his wife, took off his gold rimmed spectacles and burst into sobs. His wife pulled his head to her shoulder, and she, too, burst into sobs, pausing to mop his eyes with a large blue bandana.

Defense Attorney Garland began wiping his own eyes, but paused long enough to say to Judge Hugh M. Rorsey, who was reading a newspaper: "Your honor, we rest."

Arguments will be heard tomorrow and the case probably will go to the jury by night, attorneys said. If a verdict is not reached before midnight tomorrow, it will have to wait until Saturday, for Friday is a legal holiday in Georgia—Memorial day.

Floyd I. Lee Found Guilty In 5 Floggings

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Judge Pomeroy Will Pass Sentence on Him Today.

Floyd I. Lee, described as the "king pin of the wrecking crew" of the East Point Ku Klux Klan, yesterday was found guilty on all five charges of flogging five white men. The jury, which spent three days listening to testimony and arguments, returned the verdict in one hour and 10 minutes.

The Constitution

Judge E. E. Pomeroy is to pass sentence on Lee this morning in Fulton superior court.

Maximum sentence is one year on public works, six months in jail, and a fine of $1,000 on each of the five charges. Floggers already convicted in the superior court have been given the maximum sentence.

Lee Present.

Lee was present in the courtroom late yesterday afternoon when the jury returned with its verdict of guilty. He made no statement. He is free under bond of $5,000 until sentence is passed. It was said he will post an appeal bond today.

Atlanta, Ga.

Lee, the sixth member of the East Point Klan's "secret committee" to be convicted since the investigation of that committee's activities was started last March by the death of Ike Gaston, East Point barber, made no statement during his trial in his own defense.

The defense put up no witnesses or testimony of any kind and devoted itself solely to arguments.

H. A. Allen and John Hudson, Lee's attorneys, cross-examined at great length every witness put up by Solicitor General John A. Boykin and Assistant Solicitors E. E. Andrews and Daniel Duke during the three-day hearing.

Describe Beatings.

Louis Brown, P. S. Toney, J. W. Wilkes, Bert Harris and Joe Otwell, the five men Lee was accused of having directed to be flogged, all took the stand to describe the terrific beatings handed them.

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W. C. Bishop and Luke Trimble, both members, and the latter the secretary of the East Point Klan, testified that Lee was present when the five were whipped.

Frank Burdett, who went with the Klansmen to Wilkes' house, was also a witness.

In a statement allegedly signed by him prior to the trial, he said Lee was present at Wilkes' house, but on the stand he said he "couldn't remember whether Lee was there or not."

The trial also saw one witness, Grady Vickery, a youth who witnessed the "snatch" of Joe Otwell, sent to jail for three days for contempt of court when he failed to answer a court subpoena and "couldn't remember" anything when he was brought in by the sheriff and made to take the witness stand. He was still in jail yesterday.

A Flogging Conviction

The first trial in Georgia growing out of the recent series of floggings has resulted in the conviction of one defendant among 17 indicted as Ku Klux Klan floggers. Judge Hugh M. Dorsey imposed the maximum penalty of 12 months on the public works, six months in prison and a $1,000 fine.

The defendant, Henry Cawthon, an East Point garageman, was convicted of assault and battery in the beating of P. S. Toney, CIO textile union organizer. The flogging victim positively identified Cawthon as one of his attackers, and another witness at the trial, a Ku Klux Klan member from Scottsdale, testified that he attended an East Point Klan meeting to denounce Toney and the CIO. Two fellow Klansmen of Cawthon's testified that they saw him flog Toney with a long, heavy leather strap.

The CIO angle shows that in this East Point case the Klan has been used to violate civil liberties in connection with economic differences. Usually Klan floggings and cross-burnings and other acts of terrorism have been associated with racial or religious prejudices. But there has long been a strongly held belief, of course, that back of the racial and religious intolerance of the Klan lay economic motives. Certainly in the case of this CIO flogging the motive was economic. Some persons in the Klan membership in East Point were using the Klan to fight a labor organization.

Cawthon is also under a felony indictment charging him with kidnaping Toney from Scottsdale and taking him to East Point, where the flogging was inflicted. The state intends to try the assault and battery charges against the other 16 men indicted for flogging before taking up the kidnaping case.

The use of the East Point Klan for the flogging and attempted intimidation of a labor organizer is another proof of the evil possibilities inherent in the wearing of masks and robes by members of an organization. There is no area of human thought or activity that is safe from invasion by such a group. In the past we have seen the Klan used as a smokescreen for the punishment of helpless individuals and minority groups of various kinds. We have seen it used viciously in politics, in racial and religious persecution, in the realm of morals, and in the economic field. There are not many other areas where it could strike.

Of course, the entire Ku Klux Klan has not been guilty of such things. But the point is that the Klan has been so often and so widely used in these ways, as the record shows, and its hoods and robes have lent themselves so well to such uses, that the Klan as a whole cannot escape a measure of blame for these outrages.

Now the Klan leaders have decreed that the members of the order must not wear robes and masks. Imperial Wizard James A. Colescott announced this decree just a few days ago, as a consequence of the recent revelations in Georgia. Mr. Colescott suspended the charter of the East Point Klan unit also.

When any group such as this one within the East Point Klan succeeds in getting away with an act of mob violence, it becomes emboldened. Soon there is a series of such acts. This happened in Georgia, where in the last few years more than 30 floggings have been reported, and perhaps many more than that have taken place. In one case in East Point a flogging victim was beaten to death.

Now justice is catching up with these crimes in Georgia. It is to be hoped that other convictions will follow this first one where guilt can be established. Then we will see an end to floggings in Georgia.

KLAN TERRORIST TO SERVE YEAR ON CHAIN GANG

Jail Term and Fine Also Imposed.

BY MARCIA WINN.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Atlanta, Ga., April 25.—Henry Cauthon, chieftain of a band of Ku Klux Klan night riders, was convicted here late today of the flogging of P. S Toney.

Cauthon, red headed Baptist deacon and garage owner, went on trial eight days ago on 17 counts of assault and battery in the flogging of 17 of his neighbors in East Point, backwash suburb of Atlanta. Eight of the counts subsequently were withdrawn, and a superior court jury today, after deliberating for four hours, found him innocent of eight of the remaining nine and guilty of one.

Sentence Passed at Oonce.

Judge Hugh M. Dorsey immediately sentenced Cauthon to the maximum punishment under Georgia law—12 months on the chain gang, more tenderly known as the public works camp; six months in jail, and a $1,000 fine.

With this conviction the state made its first dent on Ku Klux Klan terrorism. Fifteen of Cauthon's associates also were indicted with him as floggers; with him, a sixtheent, Floyd I. Lee, who preced Cauthon as chief of the wrecking [or whipping] crew, was indicted today. The next trial in the long, grim chain of floggings is that of Dan Eidson, brother of Herbert Eidson, a deputy sheriff, who also is under indictment. Eidson's trial opens May 8.

"This is just the beginning," Assistan Solicitor General Daniel Duke promised after Cauthon's conviction. "We will fight now with every force we have to bring to justice this group that has set itself up as a Fulton county Gestapo.

Pledges Fight to Finish.

"We've got the klan scared now. We've unmasked them and forced them into the open. We won't stop until they're all gone."

The jury's verdict, given at 5:22 p. m., transfixed the courtroom, jammed with Cauthon's friends. They, like he, were merry, gay, confident of acquittal during the long afternoon of deliberation. They craned hopefully forward as the jury foreman, H. H. Walton, whose spectacles, red hair, and lean physique gave him a striking resemblance to Defendant Cauthon, began to read:

"We the jury," Walton intoned, "find the defendant guilty——" a deep, fearful stir rippled thru the crowd—"on count 12"—the defense counsel jumped—"and innocent on counts 1, 2, 3, 4——" and he named the remaining 16.

Defandant's Face Flushed.

"Mr. Defendant, stand up," barked out Judge Dorsey, former governor of Georgia.

Cauthon, his face flushing scarlet draining to a dead white and flushing scarlet again, stood at the bar.

"I wonder," breathed a man near by, "did his face get that red when he was whipping people?"

Judge Dorsey, visibly trembling, began to speak.

"Well, the jury found you guilty on count 12," he said curtly. "The sentence of the court is that you serve 12 months on public works, six months in jail, and pay a $1,000 fine."

"Whee!" the crowd whistled before relapsing into silence. The judge left quickly, and the jurors broke ranks and dispersed, but the crowd remained in a silent lump—just looking.

Compromise, Says Juror.

Foreman Walton commented disgruntledly that the verdict was a compromise. Nine jurors were for a guilty verdict on all nine counts from the outset. Three were for complete acquittol. "We took four or five ballots," Walton said.

The single conviction was on the flogging of Toney, a C. I. O. organizer at a cotton mill near East Point. Three of Cauthon's fellow Klansmen testified he took part in this, and also in the abduction of Toney from his home. Cauthon still faces trial on the Toney kidnaping indictment. [The Georgia penalty for kidnaping is 4 to 20 years.]

"And it will be tried in due time, don't worry," Duke said.

Cauthon made no comment on the outcome, other than to direct inquiries to his counsel, Reuben Garland.

"We're shocked," said Garland, "shocked." He forthwith prepared a motion for a new trial.

The case, intended as a wedge to split open the Klan's hooded marauding in Georgia, went to the jury at 1:35 p. m.

A voice—"We, the jury, find the defendant guilty on count number 12."

Then, after a slight hesitation, he continued slowly—"We, the jury, find the defendant not guilty on counts one, two, three," and at this point, the dapper assistant solicitor got his second breath, and raced through the rest of the numbers until he had reached 17, after skipping number 12.

Cauthon had heard his case described by the prosecution as having grave bearing upon maintenance of American liberty and traditions, and by his defense counsel, Reuben Garland, as being based "on bias, prejudice and foolishness."

"If you favor a system of law and ordered conduct where everyone doesn't have to carry a shotgun around with him," Solicitor General John A. Boykin told the jury, "then you must take your duties as jurors in this case most seriously."

The prosecutor referred scathingly to Judas Iscariot, to Benedict Arnold and to the disloyal figures in Finland and Norway who aided Nazi invaders. In a climax which observers declared one of the most eloquent of his long career, Boykin quoted Daniel Webster's famous plea to the statue of George Washington:

"Speak, speak, speak, oh marble lips, and teach us the love of justice protected by law!"

Insists on Innocence.

Garland throughout insisted on the innocence of his client, attacked the solicitor general's office as having engaged in highly improper practices in the flogging probe, referred to "screaming headlines," emphasized offers of rewards for information, and deplored the character of state's witnesses.

"This prosecution is a legal farce, a tincture of lies and circumstances," he earnestly declared to the jury. "It is not worth the wind that whips around this

emple of justice. It is a culmination of youthful ambition and absolute indifference to justice."

Cauthon's four children, Henry Harold, 13; Martha, 11; Junell, 9, and Henrietta, 3, were paraded into the courtroom just before the arguments began. The defendant held his smallest daughter on his knees, affectionately, while the others disposed themselves in chairs. They were taken away before Boykin's address was begun.

In his charge submitting nine assault and battery counts, Judge Hugh M. Dorsey ruled circumstantial evidence only had been offered in the G. W. Wright and T. E. Young floggings, but that direct evidence had been adduced in the cases of Doc F. Floyd, Hugh Brannen, P. S. Toney, James W. Wilkes, Levi Conkle, O. N. Conkle and George Grooms.

Cauthon Found Guilty In Flogging Organizer

No Convictions Voted on Eight Other Charges

Defendant Draws 18-Month Sentence, and $1,000 Fine.

By WILLARD COPE.

Henry Cauthon was found guilty on but one count—that of the flogging of P. S. Toney, CIO organizer—in a verdict returned shortly after 5 o'clock yesterday afternon by a jury which weighed evidence in nine cases growing out of south Fulton county outrages.

Judge Hugh M. Dorsey immediately gave him the maximum penalty—twelve months on the public works, six months in jail and $1,000 fine.

A kidnaping charge, involving the seizure of Toney at Scottdale and taking him to the East Point city dump to be beaten, still remains to be tried.

This charge carries a four-to-20-year sentence upon conviction.

The jury's verdict set out that Cauthon was found not guilty of the other 16 counts. However, before the case went to the jury, Judge Dorsey had ruled eight of them out on petition of the defense. At that time he instructed the jury to acquit the defendant on those eight counts.

Cauthon's attorney, Reuben Garland, immediately filed a motion for a new trial and Judge Dorsey set bond at $5,000, which Cauthon made with his aunt, Mrs. Gertrude E. Suttles, as surety.

The red-haired defendant took the verdict and sentence with apparent calm, although his face flushed a deep red as Judge Dorsey called him before the bench to pass sentence.

But his wife, who has been with him every minute since the trial started, wept bitterly.

Cauthon declined to make any statement, while Garland's only comment was, "We're shocked at the conviction, but grateful for the other 16 verdicts."

While most of the jurors declined to discuss the number of ballots taken or the way the voting went, it was learned from a reliable source that from the start the jury was 9 to 3 for conviction on all nine of the counts.

There was tenseness in the air as the jury followed Judge Dorsey back into the courtroom to present the verdict.

Assistant Solicitor Daniel Duke who had taken the lead in the flogging investigation, received the verdict from the foreman, H. H. Walton. He stood motionless for a few seconds, and then began to read with a slight quiver in his

Constitution Staff Photo—Pete Roton.

AT THE BAR—Tense, but calm, Henry Cauthon stood before Judge Hugh M. Dorsey yesterday in Fulton superior court, where he was found guilty of one count by a jury which weighed evidence in connection with flogging outrages in south Fulton county. The maximum penalty was given—12 months on the public works, six months in jail and $1,000 fine.

Mystery Cross Burns On College Campus

Several See Members Of Hooded Order

MACON, Ga.—(SNS)—Feb. 1—The seventh of a series of mysterious burning crosses appeared here this week on the Georgia Baptist College campus just outside the city limits last Monday night at about 8:40, residents of the area reported.

Business Manager H. R. Harris reported the cross burning orgy to local authorities soon after its appearance on the school property about 50 feet from the highway. Mr. Harris was reported investigating the source of the cross later this week.

The appearance of the cross on the school campus marks the seventh time in recent weeks that the flaming demonstrations have appeared in Macon.

NOT WORK OF PRANKSTER

Authorities have repeatedly said that "it is not the work of a prankster." The crosses are constructed of strong timber with layers of gasoline soaked burlap tightly wired to them. All of the crosses that have recently appeared have been of the same size and construction.

Many local persons have expressed a belief that the crosses are being burned in an effort to reawaken interest in the Ku Klux Klan locally.

Only a few curious spectators viewed the burning of the most recent cross from close range. Most passers-by chose to view the flickering, splattering burning from a safe distance of a couple of country blocks.

Several Broadway personalities report having seen hooded persons suspected of being members of the Klan riding about the city last Monday night, before and after the appearance of the cross on the school campus.

Here Are Jurors In Flogging Case

The twelve jurors named in Fulton superior court yesterday to try Henry Cauthon in the first of a series of flogging trials are the following: Constitution 4-18-40

R. L. Oliver, 1426 Beecher street. Atlanta, Ga.

George R. Nicholson, 965 Rawlins street, S. E.

Ralph E. Howard, 10 Eleanor Place, N. W.

Hugh Baker, 17, Thoms drive.

H. H. Walton, 1378 Oak street, Southwest.

L. B. Johnson, route 1, Roswell.

C. D. Young, 965 Adair avenue.

M. J. Clark, 960 Stewart avenue.

J. B. G. Sims, 972 Donnelly avenue.

James E. Dunn, 193 Elizabeth street, N. E.

John R. Wilder, 113 Holly street. N. W.

Gaston Ghost's Presence Is Felt In Courtroom

Tense Crowd Sits and Waits for Word That Points the Finger.

By HAROLD MARTIN.

The ghost of Ike Gaston stalked through a crowded courtroom here yesterday where, before Judge Hugh M. Dorsey, the first of the flogging trials got under way Constitution 4-18-40

It came as a person of flesh and blood to many of the tense throng that packed the smoky, high-ceilinged room, filling every bench and standing along the walls.

For many of them who watched and listened had known Ike Gaston. And, though Henry Cauthon, the man on trial, is not accused of his death, they knew that out of this trial, and those to follow, may come some hint as to who beat Ike Gaston and left him to die.

Strange Atmosphere.

There was a strange atmosphere about the crowd, a strange sense of unity that seemed to transcend the mere sensation-seeking that is the common bond between most courtroom crowds.

There was the inescapable feeling that all this that went on before the big desk behind which the little judge slumped in a great chair, touched the lives of the throng out there beyond the rail as much, perhaps, as it touched the life of red-headed Henry Cauthon and the pretty blond wife who draped her arm about his shoulders and affectionately tweaked his ear.

Some of them who sat out there, perhaps, themselves had felt the lash, or had seen its mark upon the backs of loved ones.

Some of the hands which clenched and unclenched, gripped dead cigars, tore bits of paper to confetti, perhaps themselves had felt the body of a man cringe beneath the lash they held.

Far-Off Cries.

Some ears, out there beyond the rail, perhaps were hearing beaten men crying for mercy in the night. Some eyes that stared at judge and jury might be seeing again backs of men that bled from the whip.

Some may have been seeing the lurching figure of Ike Gaston, staggering off down a red-clay hillside, staggering, falling, rising and falling again until it fell and did not rise.

Every name that was mentioned by lawyer or witness sent an electric pulse through the crowd. Every detail of testimony brought its quick reaction. Eyes that had been glued to the face of the witness would flicker aside to catch the eyes of a neighbor. Heads would nod almost imperceptibly. 4-18-40

For here were things being talked about in court that had been common talk for years, in homes, in stores, on street corners.

And through it all was the sense of waiting for something big. Not for testimony about the flogging of this man or that. But something that would point the finger of suspicion at some man or men, something that would bear upon the Gaston case. Constitution

When it came at last, the air was taut as a bow-string. Here it was. The ghost of Gaston was walking. The thing for which they had waited, some with hope, some with fear, was being brought into open court.

But it didn't come out. Nothing in the lawyer's accusation or the witness' stout denial threw the faintest ray of light upon the Gaston slaying, cast the shadow of suspicion upon any man.

Reaction swept over the crowd like a tide. Jaws resumed their slow munching upon tobacco and gum. Matches flared, smoke curled up. There was a stir as tense bodies became aware of the hardness of the long black wooden benches.

As court adjourned, they didn't tarry. They went out in a rush.

But Gaston's ghost has not been laid. Nor will it, while men stand trial for the floggings that the investigation following his death uncovered.

Sometime, maybe, some word will slip into testimony that will throw a ray of light upon his death.

The crowd will be back. For that's what they are waiting for.

The Klan Unmasks

Action of the board of directors or, as they call themselves, the "kloncilium" of the Ku Klux Klan in ordering discontinuance of the mask as part of the order's regalia, will be acclaimed by everyone—both those who feel kindly toward the organization and those who have fought it—as the wisest move it has ever made. Constitution 4-18-40

By this one stroke the basic cause for criticism of the Klan has been removed and it is now possible, if the Klan's announced objective, the inculcation of "Americanism," is correctly accredited, for it to actually perform a worthy service. Atlanta, Ga.

The only pity is that the unmasking did not take place years ago. For, if the Klan had not made it a custom to appear in public wearing the masks, to stage "warning parades," and to burn "fiery crosses" it is extremely doubtful if such sickening outrages upon American rights as the south Fulton floggings would ever have occurred.

However, that tragic denouement is now history, an accomplished fact, and all that can be done is to bring the perpetrators of the outrages to justice, to exact the fullest penalty of the law after they have been convicted in fair and open trial.

At the same time as the kloncilium ordered the masks removed from Klan regalia, other important rulings were made public. One forbids the appearance of the Klan in parades without special permission either from the state, or national, head of the order as well as from local authorities.

Another places the same restriction upon the burning of "fiery crosses," with the added stipulation they cannot be burned on privately owned property unless with the permission of the owner.

It may now be expected that the Klan will be able to function for the real good of its membership and for the public at large, just as any other worthy secret order may function. Of course, it will still be possible, as in any organization, for an undesirable individual to secure membership, occasionally. This, by the law of probability, is unavoidable. The action of the imperial wizard, James A. Colescott, and

the kloncilium, however, is assurance that such persons will not retain their membership after their true character has been exposed.

It was a bitter paradox that the Klan, while proclaiming its adherence to Americanism, followed a practice, that of public wearing of masks, that is the most un-American possible to conceive.

If there is one basic spirit to all Americanism, it is open, public support of those principles for which the individual stands. The fundamental principles enumerated in the constitution and the bill of rights must, of necessity, wither in any nation where men are permitted to hide their identities while engaged in any activity.

Such hidden stealth is repugnant to every instinct of the free American and there can be no possible excuse, or condition, warranting it.

It is sincerely to be hoped that, now their masks have been removed, no member of the Klan will be ashamed to appear in public, face uncovered, as an individual unit of the organization.

The Klan, if its membership wills, can now be made into a strong factor in intelligent education of its members in those principles which all men must understand and practice, if American democracy is to justify itself and survive the insidious onslaughts of those who would destroy it.

If proper understanding of the foundation stones of this nation becomes the Klan objective, all objectionable features which have marred its past will automatically be removed, just as the mask has now been done away with.

Constitution Staff Photo—Bill Wilso

DECIDERS OF DESTINY—Here are the men who will decide the guilt or innocence of Henry Cauthon, East Point Klansman, who went on trial yesterday in Fulton superior court on charges that he participated in a series of flogging outrages. The jurors are shown returning from lunch for the afternoon session, led by the bailiff.

Three Indicted As 'Interferers' With Flog Trial

Trio Accused of Trying To Block Testimony Against Cauthon.

As an outgrowth of the Henry Cauthon assault and battery trial, the Fulton county grand jury yesterday indicted three Atlantans on charges of attempt to commit subornation of perjury.

Those indicted were Clarence Thompson, city of Atlanta waterworks inspector; John Milam, metal worker, and J. W. Tate, a former employe of Cauthon. All three were defense witnesses during the Cauthon trial. Bond in each case was set at $1,000 by the solicitor general's office. The charge—a felony—carries a one-to-two-year penalty.

Specifically, Miliam and Thompson were charged with attempting to induce Levi Conkle, a flog victim, to give perjured testimony in the Cauthon trial, while Tate was alleged to have attempted the same with W. R. Jackson, another flog victim.

During the trial a sister of Conkle's testified that Milam and Thompson came to the Conkle home and told Levi "that it would be better for you to come over on Henry Cauthon's side of the case." Jackson told the jury that Tate offered him $3 and promised him more if he would sign an affidavit saying Cauthon had no part in his flogging.

Assistant Solicitor E. E. Andrews presented the cases to the grand jury in the absence of the Solicitor General Boykin.

Both Thompson and Milam were at the courthouse while the grand jury was deliberating their cases. Thompson sought unsuccessfully to appear before the grand jury.

KLANSMAN CONVICTED ON WHIPPING CHARGE, GETS MAXIMUM TERM

Atlanta Jury Finds Cawthon Guilty Of Assault And Battery

FINE IS ALSO IMPOSED

Textile Union Organizer Was Lashed At Night

KIDNAP COUNT PENDING

Accused Chief Of 'Terrorist 'Wrecking Crew' Is Cleared In Eight Other Cases Of Flogging In Georgia

By The Associated Press

ATLANTA, April 25. — Husky Henry Cawthon was convicted late today in one of nine flogging cases and given the maximum penalty of 12 months on the public works, six months in jail and a fine of $1000.

The jury found the bespectacled garageman guilty of assault and battery in the beating of P. S. Toney, C. I. O. Textile Union Organizer.

Sentence Follows

Superior Judge Hugh M. Dorsey quickly sentenced the prisoner, pictured by the state as the chief of a Ku Klux Klan "wrecking crew" responsible for a long series of floggings in and near suburban East Point.

Deliberating about five hours, the jury cleared Cawthon of assault and battery charges in eight other floggings. Still outstanding against him, however, is a felony indictment charging him with kidnaping Toney.

Fellow Klansmen Testify

Cawthon's fellow members in the East Point Klan testified against him. Victims described whippings given them with a metal-studded leather strap.

Attorneys for Cawthon gave notice of appeal and he was released in $5000 bail

KLU KLUX KLAN- 1940

ILLINOIS

KLUXERS FAIL TO GET MAN

A desperate attempt on the part of the Ku Klux Klan of Atlanta, Ga., to extradite Romeo Blake, 4519 Champlain avenue, failed this week when Judge John McCormick in Felony court refused to issue a fugitive warrant and discharged Blake. Top, Blake telling his story to Assistant State's Attorney Walter L. McCoy. Bottom, Ku Klux Klan card which John Maxwell, Georgia klansman, displayed in court and gave as his only authority to take Blake back to the Southland. Police have been ordered to guard Blake against possible kidnaping. —Gushiniere photo.

Klansmen In Chicago To Get Man, Get The Air

The Invisible Empire of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Georgia edition, is still blushing this week over a slap on the cheek administered by State's Attorney Thomas J. Courtney's office following an extradition hearing before Judge John V. McCormick in felony court.

But even more embarrassed than the allegedly omnipotent K.K.K. were two of its members, John W. Maxwell, a Georgia bondsman, and Arthur Evans, a Georgia sheriff, both of whom came to Chicago Monday prepared to cart off Romeo Blake, 4519 Champlain avenue, wanted by Georgia authorities on a charge of skipping a $200 bond following his arrest last year in Atlanta for an alleged traffic violation.

The two Dixie officials made their first appearance Monday at Forty-eighth street police station where they asked Sgt. Thomas Brennan's aid in extraditing Blake.

Tells of Incident

After his arrest Blake was taken to the state's attorney's office where in his statement to Assistant State's Attorney Walter L. McCoy he related the traffic incident in Atlanta.

"I was driving my car in Atlanta one day in September of last year when a white man ran into my machine. He hit the front left wheel. There was no damage done to his auto, but he insisted that I was wrong and told me he would have me placed on the chain gang.

"During the argument a policeman came up and without asking me the details of the accident, placed me under arrest and charged me with reckless driving, driving without a state license, and driving while under the influence of liquor. I was taken to jail and after making a $200 bond was told I would be notified when the case was to be called. I waited several days, but I was told the case wouldn't be heard for several weeks. Then I left and came back to Chicago."

Klan Gets Setback

Assistant State's Attorneys McCoy and James V. Cunningham, extradition experts, called in the two Georgia officials and after questioning them discovered they were officials of the Invisible Empire of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan and had come to Chicago without proper extradition credentials.

On Thursday morning at the extradition hearing before Judge John McCormick in felony court, the petition to surrender Blake was denied after Assistant State's Attorney McCoy made a stirring plea stating the Georgians had failed to comply with the constitution and federal statutes in that they had to requisition or governor's warrant.

Officer Eugene Powers, of the state's attorney's police force, was assigned to see Blake safely home when it was rumored that the Georgia sheriff and bondsman might attempt to kidnap the fugitive as a last resort.

COLORED WIFE KILLED BY HER ITALIAN HUBBY

Lived as Man and Wife 9 Months

"If I can't have you, no one else can." was the threat often hurled at Kara Stockell, 42, 5315 Michigan avenue, by her common law husband, Anthony Murlo. 52, Italian. Late Sunday night after a vicious quarrel, he made good his threat when he shot and killed her in the bedroom of their home, then rushing to his sister's house shot himself, dying in Bridewell hospital Monday morning.

Mrs. Stockell's body was found around 1:35 a. m. Monday morning by Angelo Coglianese, nephew of Murlo and roomer at 5315 Michigan avenue; Ruth Jones, also a roomer at the Michigan avenue home and Grace Abney, 5247 Prairie avenue.

Lived Together 9 Months

According to Coglianese, and the Jones woman, Kara Stockell and Murlo, also known as Murrell, had been living together about nine months and frequently quarrelled about the late hours she kept and the amount of liquor she drank. He often threatened her, both witnesses told the police, and frequently told her, "If he couldn't have her, no one else could."

Coglianese told police that he saw his uncle, Murlo, Sunday evening about 6 p. m., and at that time Murlo was angered by the fact that the Stockell woman was keeping such late hours. He started out of the room, came back, took his gun out of the drawer and went out. Coglianese stated that he got the impression that Murlo was on his way to kill Mrs. Stockell.

Ruth Jones told police that she, Coglianese and the Abney woman had gone out earlier in the evening to a tavern and had returned to the home where they found the woman's body. The police were notified and started a search for Anthony Murlo.

A phone call to the police station stating that an unidentified man had shot himself at 3962 Elson avenue, sent police there. It was found to be Murlo. On his way to the hospital, Murlo admitted to Policeman Hillock that he had killed Kara Stockell at their home at 11 p. m. Sunday. He said they had quarreled and he had taken out his gun to threaten her. She grabbed for the gun in the struggle and it went off, killing her instantly.

Murlo was taken to Bridewell hospital where he died at 9:15 Monday morning.

Former Klan Leader Loses Fight for Freedom

DEC 20 1940

NOBLESVILLE, Ind., Dec. 19. (AP)—A 15-year legal battle through which D. C. Stephenson, one-time Indiana grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, sought an opportunity to prove he was "framed" on a murder charge, ended today with dismissal of his petition for a new trial.

He is serving a life sentence for the death in 1925 of an Indianapolis statehouse employe. The prosecution charged he assaulted the girl and then refused her medical attention after she drank poison. Circuit Judge Cassius M. Gentry said Alban Smith, of LaPorte, Stephenson's attorney, requested dismissal of the petition.

KU KLUX CHARGE BRANDED AS 'LIE' IN JONES SPEECH

Candidate Says He Got His Political Start by Fighting Klan

(Special to The Times-Picayune)

Lutcher, La., Jan. 6.—Charges by Governor Earl K. Long that Sam Jones was running for governor with the backing of the Ku Klux Klan, and that Jones would oust the Sisters of Mercy St. Vincent de Paul from the United States Marine hospital at Carville are "damnable lies and Earl Long knows it," the Lake Charels candidate declared here tonight. "When Earl Long says that I am running for governor with the backing of the Ku Klux Klan and that I voted against Al Smith in the presidential race in 1928 he is telling a damnable lie and he knows it," Jones said.

"Everybody in Southwest Louisiana knows that I stood on the stump and made speeches for Al Smith. H. C. Pugh, former mayor of De Ridder, my old home town can testify to that and I got my start in politics when I supported John J. Robira for district attorney in 1924 against an official of the klan. These reports are just as ridiculous as the one that he started saying that I intend to change the nursing staff at Carville and right here I want to take this opportunity to commend the fine work done by the Sisters of Mercy St. Vincent de Paul who are devoting their lives to caring for the unfortunate men and women who have been segregated at Carville.

Carville Supports

"I have always been interested in the humanitarian work and I have an acquaintanceship of nearly 10 years' standing at Carville. Today I had the privilege and the pleasure of visiting that institution and renewing my acquaintanceship with the ex-service men there and it might interest you to know that those men told me there would be nothing left to fight about if the election could be settled right by their own choice."

Jones said he had received telegrams today informing him that more supporters of other anti-administration candidates had come over to his side having decided that he was the "only candidate who could beat the administration."

"The swing to Jones in January is gaining momentum every day," he said, "and the bandwagon will look like a regular parade before election day rolls around. All over the state the people are waking up to the realization that they are going to have to vote for me eventually to beat the machine so they are determined to get this over with in the first primary."

Jones said he is "giving every ounce of my energy to this strenuous campaign but I gain new strength every day when I see the deetrmined men and women come out to my meetings and realize that they are counting on me to lead them out of political slavery." Politics in the state highway commission that "makes it possible for a political favorite to get a graveled road for his private convenience but won't give a road here," was attacked by Jones. Two speeches in St. James parish today here and earlier today at Vacherie rounded out the entire state for him, Jones said, this making the 64th parish he had visited.

Beginning Monday, he said he will concentrate his efforts on New Orleans making a series of addresses at ward meetings and a final city rally next Saturday night. Speaking with Joens were four other members of his ticket, Dr. Marc M. Mouton, candidate for lieutenant-governor; Eugene Stanley, for attorney-general; John E. Coxe, for state superintendent of education, and Charles A. O'Brien, for commissioner of agriculture.

Stanley said the administration had been spreading the report among state employes that checkers could tell how the employes voted and said "Don't let any of those two-bit deadheads tell you that they can tell how you vote because they can't. The ballot is secret and any attempt to violate the secrecy of it will make them liable to prosecution not only by me as attorney-general, but by the federal government as well.

"You state employes vote the way you want to just like anybody else. They are not going to try any of that monkey business because they know my reputation for prosecuting election crooks and they also know the record that the federal prosecutors have made in the scandals investigation."

Dr. Mouton said he had established himselw as a Democrat by refusing to run for re-election to the office of coroner of Lafayete parish after serving two terms. "I argued that the office did not belong to me and that I preferred to let some other doctor have it," he said.

Coxe charged that his opponent, T. H. Harris, incumbent, had "become dictatorial in his administration of the school affairs no doubt from his close association with the gangsters who have had control of the state government for many years."

O'Brien said he felt himself qualified for the post of commissioner of agriculture by his training in agricultural school and 16 years of actual farming, his present occupation. "We don't expect to correct all the ills of farming with one sweep of the pen," he said. "But we do promise to do all that is possible to work out a long-range constructive program to put agriculture on its feet in Louisiana."

KKK Burns Cross at C.P. Leader's Home

(Special to the Daily Worker)

BALTIMORE, Md., March 31.—A flaming burlap-wrapped cross wa discovered on the lawn of the For·est Park Ave. home of Dr. Alber E. Blumberg, Secretary of the Com·munist Party of Maryland and the District of Columbia at 10:53 last night.

Police in scout car were given a description of the men who lit the oil-soaked symbol after the officers had extinguished the fire. The cross was about six feet high and was only five feet from the steps of the Blumberg home.

William O. Taylor, Negro City Secretary of the Communist Party of Baltimore stated:

"This is the third time in recent weeks that a Klan cross was burned in this city. The recurrence of the hooded Klan terrorists is something which should alarm all decent Baltimore citizens. There is no doubt that the action last night was inspired by the unlawful activities of the Dies Committee.

"If Congress and the federal government want to investigate real subversive activities in this country they can surely start with the un-American Ku Klux Klan. We urge the people of Baltimore to demand that the Police Department of this city make a real investigation of this cross burning and bring the culprits to justice. We also urge the people of this city to protest to their Congressmen the unlwaful high handed actions of the Dies Committee."

Detroit Klan Threatens to Lynch Negro Family

Police Stand Idly By As Mob Surrounds Negro's Home

(Special to the Daily Worker)

HAZEL PARK, Mich., Aug. 30.—Mounting Ku Klux Klan activity in this small city on the outskirts of Detroit was the reason for threatened intimidation of Charles Mimms, a Negro worker. The Klan rounded up a large crowd in a pool room and surrounded the home of Mimms (which he has owned for 17 years) throwing rocks and other missiles and constantly urging the crowd to "get your guns and kill some niggers."

Mimms, is highly respected among his neighbors, decided some time ago to build a home on his lot. He had formerly lived in the rear of the lot.

Hazel Park police stood idly by while for five nights in a row the Klansmen paraded before the home of Mimms and sought to intimidate him.

The Michigan Civil Rights Federation now nationally known for its constant defense of civil liberties, had observers on the scene, demanding not only protection for the Negro family but also that the police disperse the mob of terrorists.

WILL SEE GOVERNOR

Other organizations and civic leaders took up the case and a delegation will this week see Gov. Dickinson. Dickinson was notified about the actions of the Klan-inspired gangs in Hazel Park but his answer was that "the situation is well in hand." The same day and night Klansmen in the presence of police officers and Sheriff's men were inciting pool-room hangers-on to get guns and shoot it out with Mimms.

Michigan state Senator Charles Diggs stated that he will lead a delegation to see Gov. Dickinson to find out if the "Ku Klux Klan is to be allowed to practice its 18th century barbarism in Detroit and Michigan."

The powerful National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is making this case its foremost task at present. Detroit and vicinity has been the scene lately of increased Klan Activity. Last Sunday Imperial Wizard of the KKK, Hiram W. Colescot was in Detroit and in a hate-inciting speech urged "building the Klan" and aiding "American forces to route out fifth column elements."

The CIO recently sent members to Mimms home in Hazel Park to render any assistance necessary.

DETROIT KLAN THREATENS TO LYNCH FAMILY

Outskirts of Motor City Scene of Violence

HAZEL PARK, Mich., (CNA) —Mounting Ku Klux Klan activity in this small city on the outskirts of Detroit was behind the threatened intimidation of Charles Mimms, a Negro worker, the Crusader News Agency learned this week. The Klan rounded up a large crowd of thugs in a pool room and surrounded the home of Mimms, throwing rocks and other missiles and constantly urging the crowd to "get your guns and kill some niggers."

Mimms, who is highly respected among his neighbors, decided some time ago to build a home on his lot, which he has owned 17 years. He had formerly lived in the rear of the lot.

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The Michigan Civil Rights Federation now nationally known for its constant defense of civil liberties, had observers on the scene, demanding not only protection for Mimms and his family, but also that the police disperse the mob of terrorists.

Delegation To Governor

Civic organizations and civic leaders took up the case and elected a delegation to visit Governor Dickerson. Dickerson previously had been notified of the Klan-inspired gangs in Hazel Park but his answer was that "the situation is well in hand." The day on which the governor made the claim scores of Klansmen, in the presence of police officers and Sheriff's men, were inciting pool room hangers-on to get guns and start shooting up Negro citizens.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is making this case its foremost task at present. Detroit and vicinity has been the scene lately of increased Klan activity. Two weeks ago, Imperial Wizard Hiram W. Colescot was in Detroit and in a hate-inciting speech urged "building the Klan" and aiding "American forces to hunt out fifth column elements."

The CIO recently sent members to Mimms home in Hazel Park to render any assistance necessary.

Editorial of the Day

POT AND KETTLE.

(From The Charlotte News.)

The New Jersey realm (sic) of the Ku Klux Klan has rented the German-American Bund Nordland, near Andover for the purpose of holding an all-day meeting there Sunday, August 18. Purpose of the sessions, says the Rev. Edwin H. Young, of Nutley, grand giant of the realm, is "testing the Americanism of the Bund."

Which seems to be a case of setting a thief to catch a thief.

The Ku Klux outfit is very loud in its professions of Americanism. So is the Bund. Mey both outfits insist on making their own definition of what constitutes Americanism.

The Bund definition has it that true Americanism consists in hatred of Jews, in recognizing that all other blood lines are inferior to German blood, that it si the proper business of Germans to rule in this country, and in bowing down to Hitler as the prophet of a new order, in which freedom of speech and thought will be mercilessly extinguished in concentration camps.

The Klan has it that Americanism consists in hatred of Negroes, Jews, and aliens—in recognizing that all other blood lines are inferior to Anglo-Saxon blood, even though it is enclosed in the body of the trashiest white trash, in suppressing Negroes, Jews, and aliens by brutal and illegal violence and in contempt for the rights guaranteed by the Bill of Rights.

The sole difference that we can see is that the Klan wants to set up barbarism by purely native talent, while the Bund wants to have it done by the master minds at Berlin.

Somehow, we don't believe much that is illuminating is going to come out of that session at Nordland, save a new demonstration that the Klan and the Bund are cut from the same cloth.

THEY NEED WATCHING

In view of the past history of the Ku Klux Klan and the German-American Bund, their joint meeting at Camp Nordland, New Jersey, on Sunday, seemed a mingling of kindred souls. It also seemed appropriate that the Bund's brass band should do its best to drown out "The Star-Spangled Banner" when some local residents who did not share the Klan-Bund conception of "Americanism" gathered outside the fence and started to sing. The Klan's statements as to racial and religious hatreds furnish a helpful background for the Bund's campaign for Hitlerism. The effect of these activities, singly or in combination, to the degree that they succeed, is to weaken our democracy and impede preparation for the national defense. The national anthem does not belong in that setting.

The Americanism which both the Klan and the Bund despise gives them the right to hold meetings, to make speeches and to publish their opinions in print. It does not give them the right to stir up riots or otherwise break the law. This country is now engaged in readying itself to defend its territories and its interests against an enemy who may never attack us if we are fully prepared but whose identity is known. Any organization which openly supports that possible enemy, as the Bund does directly and as Klan members did indirectly by their presence at Nordland on Sunday, ought to be kept under close and constant surveillance. We hope that the Federal and local police are keeping close tab on the Klan as well as the Bund, and that they will be prepared to act if either group steps outside the law.

If Hitler were to attack this country, not one of those who cheered the dictator's name on Sunday could safely be allowed to go about his business free and unwatched. It is just as important to know their identities, their activities and the sources of their funds, now, as it is to build airplanes and reinforce the Army and Navy.

No Klan and Bund Alliance--Colescott

Alignment of the Ku Klux Klan with the German-American Bund "couldn't be achieved any more than one with Communists and Negroes," James A. Colescott, the Klan's imperial wizard, said yesterday in a prepared statement.

Commenting on a Klan rally at a Bund camp at Andover, N. J., Colescott said the Klan "denounced the Bund and opposed it for years and had urged Congress to dissolve it. . . . Why, it would be suicide for anyone to attempt to ally the Klan and Bund. At least 95 per cent of the Klan membership would resign if such an attempt were made."

He said he considered selection of the Bund camp for the Klan rally "a grievous mistake" but that he had approved it after the lease was made because it contained a provision giving the Klan complete control over the program.

Bund's Speaker Has a Record, but Not as a Speaker

Suspended Sentence And Morals Charge Against Dr. Young

The Rev. Dr. Edward E. Young, grand kailiff and spiritual adviser of the Realm of the Ku Klux Klan of New Jersey, announced as a principle speaker at the "Americanization" rally to be held tomorrow in the German-American Bund camp at Andover, N. J., was convicted on May 17, 1933, of disorderly conduct after he was arrested on a morals charge in a New York subway, the World-Telegram learned today.

The police record of Dr. Young came to light in an investigation of the leadership of the Jersey Klan which followed the disclosure, first published in the World-Telegram on July 24, that the Klan would take over Camp Nordland for the rally.

Retired Minister.

Dr. Young, self-described retired Baptist minister, who lives at 294 Magnolia Ave., Jersey City, is known on police and court records as Milford Young. At the time of his arrest by Plainclothesman Walter D. Silk, Dr. Young gave the name of Milford Young and said he lived at 326 E. 34th St.

Taken before Magistrate Greenspan of the Tenth District Court, Dr. Young was sentenced to 30 days. Execution of sentence was suspended.

Dr. Young recently showed a World-Telegram reporter a copy of the contract between the Klan and the Bund which bore the purported signatures of Dr. Young and Arthur H. Bell, grand giant and highest-ranking state officer of the Klan, and August Klapprott, camp director for the Bund. Dr. Young, who first reported that Mr. Bell had been a signatory to the contract, later, in Mr. Bell's presence, revealed he had signed Mr. Bell's name to the contract.

Kept as Speaker.

Mr. Bell, when told of Dr. Young's police record, said that he would question Dr. Young to ascertain the facts in the case. He said the Klan had it's "own method" of handling a situation like this. Mr. Bell said, however, that Dr. Young would not be kept from the speaker's stand at the rally tomorrow, despite the World-Telegram's revelation.

Following the World-Telegram's discuosure of the proposed meeting at the Bund camp a spokesman for the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League, which aided in the investigation of Dr. Young, charged that the German-American Bund is "attempting to endow itself with an aura of 'Americanism' by lining up with a native Fascist group which has not yet been smeared through foreign entanglements."

A PERFECT MARRIAGE

Courier

8-10-40

Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Ku Klux Klan and the German-American Bund are scheduled to hold a joint meeting at Andover, N. J., next week on August 18, and the N.A.A.C.P. has protested to Congressman Dies, urging him to investigate both organizations.

We frankly do not see anything to investigate in these two organizations and we believe that their getting together is really a perfect marriage that will do more good than harm to our cause.

There is nothing to investigate in these outfits because everybody who has followed the news, knows that both stand for dictatorship, suppression of civil liberties, rampant race prejudice and nationwide discrimination against Negroes and Jews; both deal in torture and terror.

Remaining apart they might give the impression to the unobservant that there is some difference between them, but when they come together in joint meetings, all doubts of their singleness of purpose are removed.

Moreover, by this step the Klan, which is a fairly respectable organization in the minds (sic) of millions of Americans, will come to share part of the bitter hatred and persecution now enlavished upon the Hitlerian Bund as a result of its treasonable and disruptive policies, and both may be suppressed at one fell swoop.

In the present temper of the American people it is suicidal for any organization to tie up with an outfit allegedly having Nazi connections; consequently we are glad to see this Bund-Klan merger and to offer the newlyweds our worst wishes.

Could Do Nation Service

There appears to be a difference of opinion between New Jersey leaders of the Ku Klux Klan and James A. Colescott, the organization's Imperial Wizard. Last Sunday the Jersey "night riders" staged what they called a wedding with the German-American Bund. Now comes the grand poo-bah with an assertion that there is no connection and no sympathy between the Klan and the Bund, although both have been carrying the torch for each other for a long time. Although the Sunday meeting of the intolerant minds had been widely prepublicized, the Imperial Wizard says he did not know of it until after it had happened. He had previously said that he did not know anything about the Klan's connection with a recent Georgia whipping orgy until after it occurred.

The Imperial Wizard vehemently voices his interest in true Americanism which is certainly not exemplified either by his cohorts or the German-American Bund. If he is sincere then let him take advantage of the one great opportunity presented to him to be of service to the Nation. Let him hang up his ornate nightshirt and, exerting the authority which is his, order the Klan disbanded. That would be a patriotic service which the American people, fed up with petty internal annoyances, would appreciate.

Klan Has 'Americanism' Rally at Bund Camp; Members of Both Orders Mingle in Jersey

Special to THE

ANDOVER, N. J., Aug. 18—Several hundred white-robed members of the New Jersey Realm of the Ku Klux Klan mingled with about 700 members of the German-American Bund today at an all-day "Americanism" rally held by the klan at Camp Nordland, the 200-acre recreation camp of the bund near here.

Officials of the klan said there was no thought of a merger between the two organizations and explained that the camp had been taken over for the day by the klan on a rental basis. At the meeting a collection was taken among bundsmen as well as klansmen to pay the expenses. Neither klan nor bund officials would name the rental figure.

Six men were arrested outside the gates of the camp after they had attempted to distribute an "Appeal to the Friends of Fritz Kuhn," former leader of the bund now in prison. Bundsmen, who apparently have turned against their former leader, forced the six out of the camp and they were arrested by a deputy sheriff and constable. The six were fined $10 each by Justice of the Peace Charles Van Ness at Newton for disorderly conduct and paid their fines.

They then made counter complaints against the camp director, Augustus Klapprott, the treasurer, Mathias Kohler, and Bruno Knupfer, a member of the bund. Klapprott was held in $200 bail and the others in $100 bail each by the same justice of the peace on charges of threatening the six men.

A klan wedding beneath a fiery cross was held as a climax of the meeting tonight. As the cross burned, a crowd of residents of the neighborhood gathered outside the fence of the bund grounds and shouted "Put Hitler on the cross." They then started singing "The Star Spangled Banner," and the bund band started playing martial music in an attempt to drown out their voices.

The main event of the day was an open-air meeting, at which the principal speakers were Arthur H. Bell, a lawyer of Bloomfield, N. J., who is Grand Dragon of the New Jersey realm of the Klan; E. J. Smythe, executive director of the Protestant War Veterans Association of New York City, and the Rev. Edward E. Young, identified as a Baptist minister in charge of finances of the klan.

Augustus Klapprott, camp director for the bund, welcomed the klansmen from the platform and then stepped down, leaving the meeting under the direction of seven klansmen and thirteen klanswomen seated on the platform in full regalia.

Other klan men and women, dressed in long white robes but without masks, sat on benches in the "auditorium" and most of the bundsmen at the camp gathered to hear the speeches.

The klan speakers made no direct references to the bund or to Nazi Germany in their speeches, but expressed sympathy for members of the bund who had been "persecuted" for their adherence to the doctrines of Nazi Germany.

In a rambling speech that drew many bursts of applause from the bundsmen present, Mr. Bell declared that the klan was not anti-semitic. He then went on to accuse the Jews of the United States of "attempting to get this country into war." He said that the klan was firmly opposed to this country going to war and was also against a third term for President Roosevelt.

The klan members arrived at the camp in automobiles and buses and changed quickly into their robes. They were escorted to the open-air meeting place by bund "storm troopers" in white shirts, black ties and black trousers. With military efficiency the "storm troopers" also stood guard around newspaper men and photographers, arranged for photographs to be taken of the officials on the platform, but refused to permit any pictures to be taken of the crowd.

AT KU KLUX KLAN'S 'AMERICANISM' MEETING

The Rev. Edward E. Young, identified as a Baptist minister in charge of finances of the Realm of the Ku Klux Klan of New Jersey, addressing the rally held at the German-American Bund's Camp Nordland.

Times Wide World

Klan Has 'Americanism' Rally at Bund Camp; Members of Both Orders Mingle in Jersey

Continued From Page One

Klan, Bund Join in Hate of Communism, Attack Jews, Progressives and Negroes

Enemies of labor and sworn foes of the Communist Party embraced publicly Sunday when a thousand Klansmen and Nazi Bund members held a joint rally at the latter's Camp Nordland, in Sussex County, N. J.

Long hinted, the virtual unification of the two anti-labor organizations came about openly when leaders of the Klan and the Bund stood side by side on a platform and spouted a savage hymn of hate against Communists, Jews, and Negroes.

Significantly, Klan leaders present showed no hesitancy in having their pictures taken by news photographers, in fact they were anxious to be photographed. They apparently had no fear that the anti-labor F.B.I. which has been hounding labor and peace groups in the nation, would molest the fascist activities of the Klan. They did show concern, however, for their Bund friends, and warned the cameramen against taking pictures of the latter.

WILLKIE SUPPORTERS

Significant also was the fact that the Klansmen and Bund members distributed Wendell Willkie buttons, meanwhile paying demogogic lip-service "against war" by cheering the name of Charles Lindbergh, who represents that section of Wall Street advocating friendly relations with Hitler even to the extent of America's involvement in the war on the side of Germany.

The macabre festivities were marked by the burning of fiery crosses, and a rousing fist fight between supporters of Fritz Kuhn, Bund leader now serving a jail sentence for stealing Bund funds, and another Bund faction.

As a result of the fight, August Klapprott, director of the Bund's Camp Nordland, and two fellow Bundsmen yesterday faced Grand Jury action on charges of making threats to do bodily harm during the fracas.

Klapprott, who is also chairman of the eastern department of the Bund, Nathan Kohler, assistant camp director, and Hugo Nepper were arrested by deputy sheriffs after the gathering.

It was estimated that 800 were Bundsmen and about 200 were Klansmen. Another 1,000 at the camp were sympathizers and relatives and friends of two Klan members who were married at the meeting. The couple, whose names were not disclosed, wore Klan regalia and a fiery cross was burned after the ceremony.

The three were arrested on complaint of Fred W. Yockel of New York, a dissident Bund member, who with five others were distributing circulars at the camp attacking the present Bund administration for its failure to work for the release of Fritz Kuhn.

Yockel charged that Klapprott and his two aides assaulted him and his companions. Eighteen other dissident Bundsters distributed literature outside the camp.

Klapprott, in full Bund uniform, had turned the camp over to Arthur H. Bell of Bloomfield, N. J., Grand Dragon of the New Jersey Klan. Bell and 19 other Klan officials, 13 of them women, occupied the speaker's platform. Guest speaker was E. J. Smythe, executive director of the Protestant War Veterans' Association of New York and one of the nation's most active anti-Semites.

NAACP Asks Probe Of Bund-KKK Rally

Calling upon Representative Martin Dies to investigate the joint meeting of the Ku Klux Klan and the German-American Bund held at a Bund camp at Andover, N. J., last Sunday, as well as Klan activities throughout the country, Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People yesterday sent the following telegram to the chairman of the House Committee investigating un-American activities:

"Now that James Colescott, Ku Klux Klan Imperial Wizard, has asked your committee to investigate the joint meeting of Klan and Nazi Bund in New Jersey last Sunday, perhaps you will now act upon repeated requests during past two years by National Association for Advancement of Colored People for investigation of Klan. We urge again that your committee on un-American activities vigorously and honestly pursue inquiry not only into last Sunday's disgraceful performance but into Klan activities by Colescott and other klansmen in Texas, Georgia, South Carolina, Indiana, New Jersey and every other state where Klan is active."

KU KLUX KLAN

NEW YORK

Are Ku Kluxers Joining German Bund, Mr. Dies?

Call 8-2-40 Kansas City, Mo.

NEW YORK.—Congressman Martin L. Dies, chairman of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, was again urged by the N.A.A.C.P. to investigate the activities of the Ku Klux Klan. The request was based upon the proposed joint meeting of the Ku Klux Klan and the German-American Bund at Andover, New Jersey on August 18.

The N.A.A.C.P. letter quoted the statement of Dr. Edward D. Young, grand Kailiff of the Klan in New Jersey that the Klan "hopes to enroll many new members. Bundsmen who can qualify will be welcome."

In view of the statements of Congressman Dies that he was investigating the German-American Bund, the N.A.A.C.P. charged that the proposed merger of the Klan and Bund in New Jersey demonstrated the similarity of the programs of the two groups. For this reason Congressman Dies was requested to investigate the Ku Klux Klan unless he considered their activities American rather than "Un-American".

Congressman Dies has been requested several times by the N.A.A.C.P. to investigate the activities of the Klan in South Carolina, Florida, and other Southern states. Despite repeated efforts Congressman Dies and his committee have refused to investigate the activities of the Klan.

Rivalry Among The 'Fifth Columns'

The press has carefully avoided drawing conclusions from the recent merger of the Ku Klux Klan with the pro-Nazi Bund. It is a delicate subject. If it were analyzed to the full, the Wall Street newspapers would find themselves unmasked as hidden allies of these forces.

That the Klan and the pro-Hitler Bund should unite is not surprising. They are linked together by their common hatred of labor, of civil liberty, of the working class movement.

As a matter of fact, Hitler's "fifth column" has very much in common with the Klan because it has very much in common with the reactionary forces of American capitalism in general. The ideas of Hitler's Bundsmen would be hard to distinguish from the real political ideas of any reactionary Senator at Washington.

For that matter, Hitler's ideology of anti-democratic hatred is to be found strong in **all capitalist countries among the wealthy ruling classes in power. Wherever there is accumulated Capital at one pole,** exploiting the majority of the toiling people down below—there one will find the fertile soil of Fascism. The reactionary ruling cliques in every capitalist country are really Hitler's brothers under the skin. Hatred of the working class—this is the trade-mark of the "fifth column" in every capitalist country including the United States.

That is why, despite all their imperialist rivalries, the German fascists found it quite easy to unite with the French fascists. That is why a Senator Burke or a Senator Reynolds could praise Hitler publicly on the Senate floor. And that is why these same Senators, having praised Hitlerism, can now roar for an American war "to stop Hitler" because they want to grab a larger slice of the world's colonial empire than Hitler, their rival. The savage summons of Ambassador Bullitt is just the soil of American fascism masked as "anti-Hitler."

Certainly, there are pro-Nazi "fifth column" agents in America, masking their imperialist intrigues behind a hypocritical label. But just as certainly there are also pro-British, pro-Wall Street "fifth column" agents operating to drag America into an imperialist war for the looting of colonies and the grabbing of profits. BOTH of these "fifth column" gangs are a menace to the majority of the American people. It is folly to attack one without attacking the other.

For, in the last analysis, both of these can make peace with one another against their common enemy—the working class and the people. France proved that; other countries will add to the proof.

We see that Martin Dies tells the press that he will "look into" the Klan-Bund merger. Martin Dies, of course, has no intention of doing anything serious to stop the activities of either the Klan or its ally, the Bund.

Would Martin Dies be in Congress at this moment if it were not for the Ku Klux Klan terrorism in the South? Are not his favorite slanders against the Communists and the labor movement the axioms of the Bundsmen's propaganda "against Communism?"

Why does not Martin Dies investigate the sinister pro-Nazi activities of Coughlin?

Because Coughlin's reactionary ideas are basically the echo of his own.

That the Bund found an ally in the Klan is only a crude symptom of the growing popularity of Fascism among America's "super-patriotic" ruling circles in Washington.

BUNDSMEN PICTURED IN KEY JOBS

Starnes Says Hundreds Of Friends To Nazis In Defense Work

OCT 3 1940

SABOTAGE FOUND, ALABAMIAN SAYS

More Inquiry Sessions By Dies Sub-Group May Be Held

NEWARK, N. J., Oct. 2—(AP)—A Dies subcommittee spokesman announced Wednesday that questioning of visitors to the German American Bund's Camp Nordland had disclosed hundreds of Nazi sympathizers employed in munitions, shipbuilding and other national defense industries.

Chairman Joe Starnes (D., Ala.) made the charge in a public statement on conclusion of two days of public and private hearings. National leaders of the bund and state heads of the Ku Klux Klan had been called as witnesses.

During executive hearings, Starnes declared, more than a score of persons, "a cross section" of 2,000, visitors to the Andover bund camp, were questioned and "without exception every witness was employed in defense work."

The inquiry unearthed evidence of sabotage, Starnes continued, remarking he did not choose to reveal incidents because that might hinder federal and local police inquiries.

Kenvil Reference Made

Questioned later concerning the Sept. 12 explosion at the Hercules Powder Company plant in Kenvil, several miles from Camp Nordland, Starnes said he was "loathe to say anything about that because it might interfere with the investigation." The Kenvil blast killed 51 and injured more than 10.

Starnes asserted the "abundance of the testimony" showed the bund was an "agent of a foreign power whose sympathies and allegiance are to another government and its policies. . . . There is no place in American life for such an organization."

The Dies Committee's inquiry into unAmerican activities in the metropolitan area was not completed, Starnes said, and further sessions might be held in Newark, New York or Washington.

He said he felt it was "blindly idealistic and even foolish" to permit aliens with allegiance to other nations to work in vital defense industries. Names of the Nordland visitors, he explained, had been obtained from license numbers of automobiles that frequented the camp.

Klan Members Meet

In an open hearing, August Klapprott, Eastern department bund leader and manager of Camp Nordland, said the camp property was used by the Ku Klux Klan for a group meeting Aug. 18 last and bund members attended just as individuals.

Arthur Bell, who described himself as State Grand Dragon of the Klan from 1923 to 1934, during which time he said peak klan membership was 300,000, said the purpose of the meeting was to "Americanize the bund." He estimated present membership as one-fourth.

"Did you think it was wise to hold the meeting," Rep. Voorhis (D., Cal.) asked Bell, state organizer until three weeks ago.

"I did then," Bell replied. "I don't now."

Another klan leader, Alton Monroe Young, who said he was a klan member for 40 years and a clergyman for that time also, testified he had arranged the metieng with Klapprott and was sorry now he had done so.

Young and Bell denied any knowledge of any movement to bring together groups including the Knights of the White Camelia, the klan, the Silver Shirts and the bund into one organization.

KLU KLUX KLAN- 1940 OHIO

KLAN LEADER SAYS ORDER FIGHTS "SOCIAL EQUALITY" FOR NEGROES

Courier

CINCINNATI, Feb. 29.—(ANP)—Last Wednesday night, addressing a meeting of Greater Cincinnati Klansmen, James A. Colescott, imperial wizard, said the Klan does not "hate" Negroes, Catholics and Jews, but the presence of Jews and Catholics in the American Legion, makes it "impossible for the legion to reflect a 100 per cent point of view."

Colescott said the Klan objects to Communism because it "encourages Negroes to believe they are entitled to social equality." He was also reported as criticizing President Roosevelt for sending a personal envoy to the Vatican in Rome.

Ku Klux Organizing Its CIO Members To Kick Reds Out

OKLAHOMA CITY— (AP) —The Ku Klux Klan, says its imperial wizard, James A. Colescott, is organizing its CIO members to "oust Communists from control."

"We have been working quietly for some time now against the Communist elements in the CIO," he said in an interview today.

"Already we have gained control of some local unions and succeeded in electing Americans to office.

"Understand, we are not soliciting klan members from the ranks of the unions. A canvass showed that we already have a large representation."

Colescott, touring the country to confer with klan leaders, asserted that the klan was working for legislation to deport all unnaturalized aliens and to provide that "those who continue to preach revolution shall be put in concentration camps.

"Direct action is not necessary now, but if it comes to a point where the Communists start a revolution, I have no scruples against leading the klan out with clubs to drive them out."

Colescott said the klan had "furnished much information" to the Dies congressional committee investigating un-American activities.

The revived klan "does not intend to take matters into its own hands. We get our information and then turn it over to proper authorities."

As for national politics, Colescott said "unfortuately officials of the government in Washington have let too many Communists get control of important government positions."

S. C. GOVERNOR BLASTS KLAN BUND MERGER

Defender

SEP 21 1940

Denounces Hoodlums In Radio Address; Asks Law Enforcement

COLUMBIA, S. C.—(ANP)—Gov. Burnett R. Maybank last Thursday vehemently condemned the Ku Klux Klan-German Bund alliance. The governor spoke from Columbia over a hookup of radio stations both in North and South Carolina.

The governor said in part, "The law enforcement officers of South Carolina are capable of enforcing the law better than any members of the German American Bund, and any Ku Klux Bundsters who attempt to take over law enforcement in South Carolina will find themselves in jail where they ought to be. I am prepared to use the full power of the governor's office to insure that law enforcement in South Carolina remains in pro-American hands."

Chicago

This vitriolic blast at the klan by the sate's chief executive is considered very significant. During the administration of other governors the halls and grounds of the state university here were used by the klan for their state convention.

Less than two months ago Ben E. Adams, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan and former editor of a now defunct weekly, spoke along with FBI men at the state convention of the police chiefs and sheriffs at Florence, S.C.

Klansmen Ousted

According to Grand Dragon Adams, he was informed by James E. Colescott, imperial wizard of the klan, that the New Jersey klansmen who met with the bund at Mountain View, N.J., have been removed.

The white dailies in the state were particularly vitriolic on the issue. In Spartanburg where less than a month ago four innocent men were carried from their homes and beaten by hooded men, the Spartanburg Herald said:

"The klan stands for all that is un-American. It believes in the doctrine of fear and force. It rides the highway at night in grotesque gowns. It has been charged with dragging people from their homes and taking them to secluded spots where they were soundly beaten. The bund believes in fifth column work in the United States. It acknowledges Hitler as it fuehrer. It is just about as un-American as any little organization we have except the Ku Klux Klan."

Intimidate Voters

In the upper part of the state where the klan a year ago rode unmolested ,intimidating voters, invading small communities and robbing the colored residents without a single move being made by the law enforcement bodies to stop them, the leading daily in the upper part of the state, the Greenville News said:

"Such citizens in this section of the country as may have in the past been defending or expressing sympathy with the Ku Klux Klan on the grounds that it stands for Americanism may find some further food for thought in dispatches and photographs from New Jersey where the Klan appears to have become very friendly with the German-American Bund.

"It has been very clearly demonstrated, we think, that this German American Bund in the East is a fifth column outfit. What's the klan doing fraternizing with it and expressing sympathy for it? Let klansmen and klan defenders explain it if they can."

Klan Union Defeated by CIO.

SEP 22 1940

COLUMBIA, S. C. — The Ku Klux Klan dominated Independent Employes Association, headed by Grand Dragon Ben E. Adams met defeat here this week when the CIO Textile Workers Union carried the highest number of votes in an election at the Columbia [illegible]

Savannah Journal

The vote was TWUA, 534; Employes Association, 483; neither, 37; and challenged, 5.

One of the latest crimes in the Klan's fight against the CIO has been the setting up of company unions, with the active support of employers.

Savannah, Ga.

S.C. Klan Didn't Bar Race From Draft Registration

OCT 26 1940

GREENVILLE, S. C. — (ANP) — Greenville along with hundreds of other southern cities is proud of its teachers. Called upon for the first time to act in an official capacity in the conduct of the draft registration the Race teachers acquitted themselves splendidly.

Defender

Previous to registration day citizens were somewhat doubtful as to the ability of the Race teachers to cope with the registration. This was because the estimated number of men to be registered in every South Carolina community nearly equaled that of the whites. The number of white teachers, however, outnumbered the colored teachers by a wide margin. The matter of illiteracy among the registrants was almost exclusively a problem for the colored teachers.

Chicago

In spite of all this the teachers have come through with flying colors. By two o'clock several schools reported having registered over 500 men. As usual the quick wit of the Negro was evident. Overheard around the schools were the following: "I hope Uncle Sam calls me soon, I want to take up flying." "Boy, you have been flying for a long time, from work." "I don't reckon the Klan will stop this registration." The reference being to the hectic day during the summer of 1939 when the mass registration of colored voters was stopped by the Ku Klux Klan.

Ill.

"If these school teachers are good enough to do this job for Uncle Sam. We men are going to do a good job, too, if we are called."

A white man viewing a Negro's card was heard to remark, "I did not know that colored teachers wrote such fine hands."

BRUTALITY IS EXPOSED ON PENAL FARM

Threaten Race Prisoners; Probe Of Conditions Is Demanded

NOV 9 1940

CHARLESTON, S. C.—(ANP) — Some 140 Negro prisoners at Dessasure state farm have been threatened with severe beatings and threats of death made for those now free should they ever return to the farm, it was disclosed here Saturday by one ex-prisoner whose word account was published by the local colored paper, the Lighthouse and Informer.

The newspaper carried a detailed account of brutal whippings at gun point at Reid's farm in May and in August. Both gave accounts of men who had been sentenced to the farms and how they were made to lower their trousers, lie flat on their stomachs and receive from 40 to 200 lashes with a five pound strap prisoners call the "bull-tongue."

While beatings are administered one guard holds a rifle on the prisoner while the other whips him. When large numbers of leashes are given the guards divide the work.

Publishers of the paper said immediately after Terry disclosed the information that Governor Maybank would be asked to investigate prison conditions at the farms. Only Negro prisoners are placed on the farm, white prisoners being kept in the state penitentiary in Columbia. Several organizations have been asked to aid in having the whippings and brutalities investigated. Meanwhile word accounts of other ex-prisoners are being gathered by the newspaper for publication.

Fifteen Klansmen Held in S. Carolina

NOV 15 1940

SPARTANBURG, Nov. 7 (ANP) —Fifteen masked and robed Klansmen were taken into custody by local and county police officers last Thursday night when found in the business section of the city distributing Ku Klux Klan literature. There were over one hundred Klansmen in the downtown area but with the arrest of 15 of their number the rest hitched up their gowns and scuttled to safety.

Bond for each Klansman was fixed at $1,000 and all were fingerprinted and photographed.

The arrested Kluxers were from Anderson, Greenville and Spartanburg. Among them was the younger brother of former Gov. Olin D. Johnston and Mayor William Johnston of Anderson, Edwin Johnston.

Former Gov. Johnston was active in arranging bond for the arrested men. In some quarters significance is attached to the fact that the terrorists appeared on the streets in less than 48 hours after two hooded night riders had been indicted by the local grand jury for the brutal whipping of four innocent colored tenant farmers about a month ago.

Anderson, S. C., Mail
October 29, 1940

ARREST OF KLANSMEN PRAISED BY THE SPARTANBURG JOURNAL

Spartanburg was given a demonstration of "invisible government" on parade Thursday night when the Ku Klux Klan staged a visitation in the business and residential sections. Officers of the law rose to the occasion and arrested and lodged in jail fifteen of the masked participants in this orgy of definance of law and morals. After spending the night in custody the fifteen were released on bond and face trial on charge of felony.

This bold, blatant flaunting of its presence in this city came at a time when criminal court is in session at which true bills have been returned against two members of a hooded band that recently lashed a couple of Negro boys in the county.

This is not the first time in recent years that Spartanburg has been visited by the Klansmen, but it is the first time that law and constituted authorities have served notice that the Klan is not going to be tolerated, with its members masked and hooded, riding or driving or walking about on a mission of terror, intimidation or punishment as a self-established instrument and "authority". Newspapers are not the vehicles to adjudge or try cases where law has been violated, but they should keep faith with their readers in standing for law and constituted authority as opposed to mob rule or violence in any shape form or fashion, whether it be Klansmen, Bundsmen, Communists or other products of the fifth column.

Time and again The Journal has reiterated that the people of Spartanburg, city and county, stand for visible government, and that there is no place for invisible rule or authority. Those who insist on violating the statutes of the state, after orderly trial, if convicted, should draw the full penalty prescribed.

Spartanburg's law enforcing officers demonstrate that they will not be intimidated or influenced by any force or organization. In suppressing the Thursday night Klan parade and in rounding up at least a portion of its participants they deserve the commendation and positive support of very lawabiding man and woman.—The Spartanburg Journal.

Miss Catherine Cheshire of Clinton is spending a few days in the city visiting relatives.

Greenville S.C. News
Nov-26-1940

Klan Condemns Negroes Again

Resolutions Passed By Local Klavern Also Blast At CIO

Poinsett Klavern of the Ku Klux Klan in Greenville has passed a couple of resolutions condemning the CIO and upholding white supremacy.

The anti-CIO resolution was passed in response to a news story which reported anti-communistic resolutions passed by the union's national convention. The Klan resolutions called the stand inconsistent because the Klan has been pointing out for three years that the CIO is riddled with communism.

The Klan further charged the union with obstructing national defense and called upon Congress to dissolve it.

The white supremacy resolution was in answer to resolutions passed by the National Negro council requesting the appointment of negroes to high federal offices. The Klan expressed itself as utterly opposed to any such appointments.

The resolutions were signed by Fred V. Johnson, kleagle of state organization.

Augusta, Ga., Chronicle
November 1, 1940

Should Not Be Tolerated

(The Charlotte Observer)

A situation has developed in the Spartanburg section of South Carolina that calls for relentless action at the hands of the law enforcement agencies of the State. It is not a situation of sudden development. It is one that has been giving Governor Maybank, law enforcement officers and many thoughtful citizens of South Carolina deep concern for many months. Citizens of other states also are concerned.

The latest episode, in which 15 persons were arrested on warrants sworn out by Spartanburg county officials charging a felony, is but another in a long series of disorderly and unlawful disturbances perpetrated by groups of men in disguise. For a time the section was disturbed by "night riders" who in disguise rode about the countryside in a manner designed to intimidate and even terrorize peaceful citizens.

In more than one instance violence was committed by these bands in disguise—white robes and hoods, which latter seem to have been replaced later by masks and dark glasses. One white man was taken from his home and family by force, hauled away into the countryside and flogged. In another case three Negroes were seized and lashed. All of the victims were legally innocent of crime.

The activities of these marauders have been denounced by at least one grand jury, by a portion of the South Carolina press and by Governor Maybank, who is on record as declaring the unlawful practices of these gowned and disguised bands will not be tolerated.

But, according to Spartanburg county officials, including the sheriff; according to at least one grand jury, and according to trustworthy newspaper reports, the depredations of the white robed gangs have been continued, intermittently even since the Governor denounced them as "un-American and un-Christian" and declared they would not be tolerated.

About 9 o'clock last Thursday night, a group of men estimated at 100 or more in number, appeared on the streets of Spartanburg, some wearing masks and others dark glasses and many clad in white regalia, and in groups of five or six circulated through the streets in the business and residential sections, some distributing circulars which read in part: "What is the Ku Klux Klan of today? The same red-blooded organization that saved our Southland from the rapists and unscrupulous politicians in by-gone years."

County and city officers moved on the men simultaneously and after the first several arrests the gowned and disguised gangsters began to disappear and soon all had vanished, but not before 15 men had been arrested.

It is important that the public keep in mind the charges in the warrants.

None of the 15 was charged with distributing Ku Klux Klan literature or any other kind of literature.

It was merely charged, according to the Associated Press, that these men "did commit a felony in that they did assemble together as a group of individuals, while wearing masks or other disguises, and did assault, offer to assault, threaten, menace or intimidate certain persons, in violation of Section 1131 of criminal code of laws of South Carolina."

If they are guilty as charged, they are guilty of violation of the law of South Carolina, of defiance of the Governor of the State and all lawful authorities, and should be dealt with accordingly.

As understood here, the law of South Carolina prohibits the public assembling of persons in disguise and was designed to curb and prohibit just such gatherings of robed and masked bands as have been terrorizing or intimidating people in Spartanburg and Anderson counties within the last year or two—doing exactly what Governor Maybank declared would not be tolerated in South Carolina.

Those guilty are contributing their full part to a reign of anarchy.

They are doing their State and Nation a great disservice. Intentionally or unintentionally, they are serving Hitler and Mussolini and Stalin.

Let it not be forgotten that the agents of those international gangsters can wear white robes and masks in the streets and the countryside at night, just as well as patriotic Americans, and when they conceal their identity they all look alike. So far as the effects and results of their activities are concerned, they are alike.

Loyal Americans do not defy the laws and constitutions of their state and nation nor the constituted authorities of their governments. Only the enemies of real Americanism resort to such practices.

Klan Purges Bund-Loving Officials

Colescott Removes Leaders in Jersey

COLUMBIA, S. C. [AP]—Ben E. Adams of Columbia, grand dragon of the South Carolina Ku Klux Klan received a telegram Thursday from the imperial wizard of the organization saying leaders responsible for a joint meeting of the Klan and Nazi Bund in New Jersey, "have already been removed."

Adams, a candidate for state senator in Richland county, wired J. A. Colescott of Atlanta, Ga., imperial wizard of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, saying:

"Denounce . . . Act"

"Have just seen newspaper picture showing New Jersey Klan official greeting Natzi Bund leader. This is contrary to every principle of the Klan and I urge that you denounce the act and banish the guilty person. There can be nothing in common between Hitler admirers and loyal Americans."

Colescott's reply:

"With reference to your wire concerning Andover, New Jersey meeting wish to advise that leaders responsible for this meeting have already been removed."

15 Kluxers Jailed in S.C.

NOV 2 1940

SPARTANBURG, S. C. — A group of about a hundred robed Ku Klux Klansmen who were distributing literature in defense of their organization on downtown streets here Thursday night, was dispersed when fifteen of their number were lodged in the county jail for investigation.

All were photographed and fingerprinted, but two of them refused to identify themselves. One, said to be a police officer from Anderson, carried a pistol and a blackjack. Eight others said they were from Anderson, three from Greenville and one a local resident.

First arrests were made by county officers, following a broadcast to all police cars of an order issued by Mayor T. W. Woodworth and Police Chief Claude Bobo.

When the first six were taken to the city jail, a city police officer protested the arrests. Chief Bobo said his case would probably be taken before the city council.

Circulars which the Klansmen were distributing said the Klan, "the same red-blooded organization that saved our Southland from rapists and unscrupulous politicians in bygone years," has been persecuted since its formation, but that it "never gives up until a task is completed."

Spartanburg, S. C. Herald
October 26, 1940

The Law Speaks

The Ku Klux Klan rode again Thursday night and it rode right into the hands of the law. Men in white regalia, some of them with their features concealed by masks and smoked glasses, appeared on business streets of Spartanburg and in residential sections, and a group of them was arrested by city and county officers and confined in the county jail.

Fifteen members of the Klan were charged with violation of Section 1131 of the criminal code laws of South Carolina. They will be tried on a felony charge in accordance with the law.

The citizens of Spartanburg have been pestered by these kluxers at various times during the year. The inevitable result of hooded and masked men on the streets of any city or the countryside is that the people are frightened and intimidated. That is the purpose of these night riders and they invariably accomplish that purpose.

Their appearance affronts law, order and decency. Some of the acts charged to the Klan are those of rank cowardice. No man of courage and honor will deliberately do anything to cause fear in the hearts of others by concealing his features and riding the streets and highways in a garb that is intended to disturb the public.

The Herald commends the officers of Spartanburg county and city upon the arrest of these offenders. It is high time that they and representatives of all other isms should know that government is a serious business and will brook no opera bouffe demonstrations by irresponsible and dangerous and menacing groups.

The Ku Klux Klan is such an organization. It was born of the womb of prejudice, selfishness, hatred and lawlessness. There is no place for it in the United States. It is blood brother to all fifth column agencies and in one state it was recently entertained at a German-American Bund camp.

It may have been a coincidence, but the demonstration Thursday night followed the indictment Tuesday of two members of a hooded band that recently brutally whipped four Negro boys in this county and without any cause whatever. Were the klansmen here from Greenville and Anderson counties to intimidate the jury that might hear those cases?

The Herald believes that it speaks for the decent, lawabiding people of this city and county when it condemns the Ku Klux Klan and its purposes. Its claim that it is a "Christian, patriotic organization" is an insult both to Christianity and patriotism. It hasn't the courage to strip its robes, throw away its masks, come out in the sunshine and stand for good government maintained by legally elected officers. The Ku Klux Klan is the foe of that democracy which it pretends to support.

Let it be said of the officers of the law in Spartanburg county and city that they have done their duty in this case There is no place for this monster here. Let the arrests of Thursday night be a promise of what will come whenever this gang attempts to invade the county and destroy the peace of mind of its people.

EX-GOVERNOR ARRANGES BAIL FOR HOODLUMS

All Are Fingerprinted And Photographed By Officials

NOV 9 1940

SPARTANBURG, S. C.—(ANP)—Fifteen masked and robed Klansmen were taken into custody by local and county police officers last Thursday night when found in the business section of the city distributing Ku Klux Klan literature. There were more than 100 Klansmen in the downtown area but with the arrest of 15 of their number the rest lifted up their gowns and scuttled to safety.

Bond for each Klansman was fixed at $1,000 and all were fingerprinted and photographed.

The arrested Kluxers were from Anderson, Greenville and Spartanburg. Among them was the younger brother of former Gov. Olin D. Johnston and Mayor William Johnston of Anderson, Edwin Johnston.

Former Governor Johnston was active in arranging bond for the arrested men. In some quarters significance is attached to the fact that the terrorists appeared on the streets in less than 48 hours after two hooded night riders had been indicted by the local grand jury for the brutal whipping of four innocent colored tenant farmers about a month ago.

Carolina Klan Used by Reds, Colescott Says

Atlanta Constitution
Sept. 9 1940

Wizard Promises To Banish Those Found To Be Communists.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Sept. 8.—(AP)—James A. Colescott, of Atlanta, imperial wizard of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, issued a statement here today expressing concern "at finding in South Carolina some men who have used the Klan to ride into public office and are now allying themselves with Communistic elements."

He declined to identify the "some men."

He said that the men were "allying themselves with Communistic elements and other forces in opposition to the best interest of our courtry. The action of these men is being investigated, and if I find that they are now or ever have been affiliated with the Klan I shall not hesitate to eliminate them from the organization by banishment as I have done in New Jersey and shall do in the future whenever I find traitors to the true cause of Americanism within our ranks.

"The Klan in South Carolina is completely organized with a strong official staff, and I am happy over the unity which prevails here."

Colescott termed Ben E. Adams, of Columbia, grand dragon for South Carolina, "a safe and able leader whose thinking is sound" and said that under Adams' leadership the Klan in this state "has made fine progress."

Ex-Governor's Brother Among 15 Arrested

Two Night Riders Indicted For Flogging Farmers

NOV 9 1940

SPARTANBURG, S. C.—(ANP) — Fifteen masked and robed Klansmen were taken into custody by local and county police officers recently when found in the business section of the city distributni gKu Klux Klan literature.

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EX-GOVERNOR'S BROTHER

The arrested Kluxers were from Anderson, Greenville and Spartanburg. Among them was the younger brother of former Gov. Olin D. Johnston and Mayor William Johnston of Anderson, Edwin Johnston.

Former Gov. Johnston was active in arranging bond for the arrested men. In some quarters significance is attached to the fact that the terrorists appeared on the streets in less than 48 hours after two hooded night riders had been indicted by the local grand jury for the brutal whipping of four innocent colored tenant farmers about a month ago.

15 MASKED KLANSMEN ARRESTED

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

NOV —9 1940

SPARTANBURG, S. C., Nov. 7.—An attempted assembly of upward of 100 white-robed, masked persons in the downtown section of this city Sunday night, was broken up when police arrested 15 of the group, all of whom were subsequently charged with wearing disguises and masks; also with menacing, threating to assault or intimidating certain persons—any one of which offenses constitutes a felony under the laws of this state.

A majority of the white-swathed figures were engaged in distributing circulars extolling the Ku Klux Klan and its "objectives", which the literature was designed to promote when the police swooped down. While the officers were busily engaged in rounding up the 15 placed under arrest, the remainder disappeared, or at least, the robes and masks did.

THE KLAN IS ANGRY

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa

Greenville Branch Thinks It's Awful for Negroes to Seek High Federal Jobs.

DEC 14 1940

GREENVILLE, S. C., Dec. 12 — (ANP)—Poinsett Klavern of the Ku Klux Klan in Greenville has passed a couple of resolutions condemning the CIO and upholding white supremacy.

The white supremacy resolution was in answer to resolutions passed by the National Negro council requesting the appointment of Negroes to high federal offices. The Klan expressed itself as utterly opposed to any such appointments.

The anti-CIO resolution was passed in response to a news story which reported anti-communistic resolutions passed by the union's national convention. The Klan resolutions called the stand inconsistent because the Klan has been pointing out for three years that the CIO is riddled with communism.

The Klan further charged the union with obstructing national defense and called upon Congress to dissolve it.

The resolutions were signed by the kleagle of State organization.

Hooded S. C. Klan Is Riding Once Again

SENACA, S. C.—(ANP)—Hooded bands of Klansmen have again started their forays in upper South Carolina. According to police officers here several cars of hooded men drove slowly through the treets of Seneca Saturday night after having earlier burned crosses on the outskirts of Walhalla near a mill village.

Since the colored population in these towns is small, these latest klan demonstrations were believed directed at discouraging labor organizers. This gives credence to the charges made by Mark Etheridge over his signature in the Southern Frontier issued by the Commissioner on Interracial Cooperation in Atlanta.

He said: "In South Carolina it has been pretty well developed, there is at least sufficiently strong connection between some employers and the Ku Klux Klan to warrant investigation by the federal government as to whether there is in effect a conspiracy to violate the Wagner act.

To put it more bluntly, there is pretty good evidence that, whether they have financed the revival (of the K. K. K.) or not, some employers welcome it; particularly if the Klan is willing to list the CIO along with Negroes, Jews, and Catholics as its particular enemies.

The Anderson (S. C.) Grand Jury returns two bills on indictments involving seven defendants in night riding charges ranging from intimidation to assault. In spite of Gov. Maybank's efforts, in spite of the activities of the state constabulary under his orders and of spectacular moves by him against the Klan's chief of staff in the state, the jurymen of Anderson choose to let the defendants go free. Proving once more, as the Georgia cases prove in the other direction, that the only real hope of putting down the Klan and other self-anointed destroyers of America in America's name is local public opinion. Fortunately the local opinion in Georgia which put the fanatical Roggers into the jails where they belong comes nearer to representing Southern opinion in general now than does the South Carolina. This war and the great upsurge of patriotism and understanding which it is causing in our own country should bring total end to the Ku Klux Klan. There is no room at a time like the present for incitements of race against race, religion against religion, class against class. Those who are guilty of such incitements, whether they are the illiterates who do the work or the ignoble literates who stand behind them, are as much a part of the "fifth column" as are spies, traitors and saboteurs.

Learn Speaker Who Told "Darky" Joke Klan Leader

Rallying To Colonel Gerald

Columbia, S. C.—More than 1800 colored citizens have signed and forwarded a petition to the headquarters of the Republican National Committee in Washington, asking removal of Joseph W. (Tireless Joe) Tolbert of Ninety-Six, S. C. as state chairman and national committeeman of the state Republican party. The action was taken when citizens became irate upon the disclosure that M. O. Dunnign, former collector of port of Savannah, Ga. and now of Atlanta, Ga., is the former Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan at Atlanta. Dunning was presented the Union Republican convention here in March by Tolbert as his warm and personal friend, and several Negro delegates "walked out" of the convention when Dunning told a "darky" joke. Some did not return. R. Brook of Aiken and Dr. R. W. Mance, leading Columbia physician, were among those who took a walk.

Brooks later returned and rebuked Dunning for using the word "darky" and stated that if an apology was not made in the convention, he and the entire Aiken delegation would walk out and stay out. Chairman Tolbert called for order but refused to comment. Earlier Tolbert had hailed Dunning as "one of the distinguished Republican leaders of the south." Despite the Klan affiliation of Dunning, which has been verified from Atlanta where it was stated he served as Grand Dragon during the reign of Dr. Simmons, Tolbert steadfastly defends him and welcomes his support.

Bates Supporters

A new party, headed by Colonel J. Bates Gerald of Summerton, has organized with the hope that Colonel Bates and his delegates will be seated at Philadelphia in the place of Tolbert and his Kluxer-followers. Among those on the Gerald ticket are, Seymour Carroll, field represetative for the American Humane Education Society, Columbia; Mrs. Andrew W. Simpkins, prominent club woman and health worker in the southeast; and James Brier, president of the Greenville, S. C., branch of the NAACP. Brier gained headlines in the daily press when the Ku Klux Klan went to his home last November to take him out for a ride. Although the Kluxers ordered Brier to leave town immediately, he simply barricaded himself in his home with more than a dozen friends and invites the Kluxers to "come in." So far, they haven't arrived.

Included with the others to go to Philadelphia with Colonel Gerald are, Rev. R. E. Broxden, Rev R. I. Lemon and Rev. E. Phillip Elli, all of Charleston, and I. M. A. Meyers, instructor at Allen University, Columbia.

Although Negroes in the state have stood by the Republicans for forty years, general comment now leadership of Republican members who retain Klan members is, they can no longer follow the as bosom friends. They plan for fight vigorously for Tolbert's seat.

KLAN HOLDS BIG PARADE IN DIXIE

SPARTANBURG, S. C., June 27—(ANP)—Knights of the Ku Klux Klan paraded down the main streets of this town last Wednesday night. In full regalia and with some few with faces unmasked, over 50 carloads of klansmen added to the traffic snarl. Permission to stage the parade was granted by the authorities only after the chief of police had been assured that no klansmen would appear masked.

At the head of the parade a few cars did contain some unmasked klansmen. The rest of the cars, a number of which had their license plates concealed with paper bags, contained klansmen whose faces were concealed behind their so-called visors. The wave of protest that followed the appearance of these hooded klansmen after the promise that the paraders would have no masks caused Ben E. Adams, grand dragon of the klan, to announce that one masked klansman had been suspended for wearing a mask.

Pictures taken of the ceremonial, held near a colored church between Greenville and Spartanburg, showed a majority of the klansmen wearing masks. In justice to the klansmen, the mask worn was a little different from those worn before the general unmasking order issued by Imperial Wizard Colescott about a month ago. The present mask hangs from the back of the high peaked cap and by a single twist of the head the klansman can at will be masked or unmasked.

The cars parked around the field where the ceremonial was held, those whose license plates were not concealed, were from South Carolina with two exceptions, and these two cars bore Michigan license plates. The presence of the Michigan cars leads some observers to believe that the Carolina klan will devote its activities to anti-labor and Jew-baiting activities in the future.

CLAIMS POLICE ARE WITH KLAN

CHARLESTON, S. C., June 27.—(ANP)—A white investigator last week declared here that half of South Carolina's police and police officials are members of the Klan.

The charges were made following a Klan parade at Spartansburg, in which a police escort was allegedly used.

The report also claims there is a wholesale movement on foot to force Negroes from the state, and pointed to jubilant expressions in many dailies when early census returns showed a decrease in the Negro population.

Fifth Brother Escapes Attack

SPARTANBURG, S. C.—(ANP)—As a climax to the official parade here two weeks ago of the hooded members of the Ku Klux Klan, the Kluxers Friday again started a reign of terrorism, the first victims being Negroes, four brothers.

Object of the Klan search was a fifth brother, who was not at home. He had just paid a fine in Magistrate's Court, it was reported, for allegedly "sassing" a white woman. When the ruffians learned the fifth brother had eluded them they vented their anger on the other four.

The brothers, ranging in age from 16 to 30, were forced into autos and driven to the outskirts of the city, where they were disrobed and lashed severely with a leather strap.

None was charged with a crime. Sheriff Sam M. Henry said he was informed the men were beaten when they refused to tell the hiding place of their brother who has "sassed" the white woman.

Spartanburg is the home town of Senator Jimmy Byrnes, prominently mentioned as a Democratic civic presidential candidate.

Names of the men were withheld, pending further investigation. They lived on the farm of the late J R. Snoddy.

Klan Head Defeated

COLUMBIA, S. C. — (ANP) — Ben E. Adams, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, and candidate for state senator from Richland county, ran third in a four man race last week in the Democratic primary.

Previous to the Klan Bund alliance held in New Jersey some weeks ago, Adams was generally conceded to be the leading candidate for the senatorship. Dragon Adams had built up a strong following not only in the county but also throughout the state.

It is generally believed here that Adams followers deserted him in the primary due to his leadership of the Ku Klux Klan. Membership in the klan is fast becoming a stigma in the state since the Jersey Klan Bund meeting.

Says South Carolina GOP Speaker Member of Klan

COLUMBIA, S. C.—It is alleged here that M. O. Dunning, of Atlanta, prominent Southern Republican leader and key note speaker at the Union Republican Convention here in March to elect delegates to the Republican National Convention, is a former dragon of the Ku Klux Klan. Joseph W. Tolbert of Ninety-Six, state chairman and national committeeman, introduced Dunning as his warm and personal friend, stating that he was one of the distinguished Republican leaders in the South.

A petition signed by over 1,800 Negro citizens has been sent to the headquarters of the Republican National Committee in Washington requesting the removal of Tolbert as state chairman and national committeeman from South Carolina. A new party headed by Colonel Gerald, "blue blooded Southerners," and his delegates will be seated at Philadelphia in the place of Tolbert and his Kluxer followers and friends.

Among those on the Gerald ticket are Seymour Carroll, field representative of the American Humane Education Society, Columbia; Mrs. Andrew W. Simkins, prominent club woman and health worker in the Southeast; and James A. Brier of Greenville, president of the Greenville (S. C.) branch of the NAACP.

Among others to go to Philadelphia with Colonel Gerald are the Rev. E. R. Brogden, Charleston; the Rev. R. I. Lemon, presiding elder of the AME Church, Charleston; I. M. A. Myers, instructor in Allen University, Columbia; and the Rev. E. P. Ellis, Charleston, leading writer for religious periodicals.

Columbia, S. C. State
July 19, 1940

CIO Flays Independents In Washington

Columbia Mills Issue Is Heard by Labor Board; No Decision Is Given

The assertion that the Independent Workers' association of the Columbia mills was "sponsored by the Kuklux Klan" was made yesterday in Washington, D. C., where the National Labor Relations board held a hearing on the labor status at the mill.

The assertion against the independent group was a repetition of a previous statement at the July 3 hearing here before an NLRB representative, and came from CIO (Textile Workers Union of America) counsel.

Ben E. Adams represented the Independent at yesterday's hearing. He identified himself as grand dragon of the klan in South Carolina but said the klan had no connection with the workers' organization. He said the workers came to him in 1939 and said they were dissatisfied with the CIO.

Adams said the Independents had 570 of the mill's 1,150 employes as members. The CIO union contended that employes within the appropriate bargaining unit numbered only 950. Its contract expired July 12.

Attorney R. H. Brazzell, also representing the CIO union, described the Independent as a "fifth column, recognized un-American affiliate of the Kuklux Klan" and said it did not permit Negro workers to be members.

Jaffey argued that no bargaining election should be held at least until the labor board investigated the "scandalous connection of the Independent and the Kuklux Klan." He read into the record what he said was a quotation from Adams' publication, "The Free Press," saying:

"The CIO cannot live in South Carolina."

The article urged independent unions, Jaffey said, to "form throughout South Carolina to return liberty and freedom to the people."

"We had our attorneys attend to our interests and now await the decision of the NLRB," commented H. D. ("Red") Lisk, Columbia representative of the Textile Workers Union of America, when consulted last night on the hearing in Washington yesterday on the attempt of the Independent Workers' association of Columbia mills to gain the labor bargaining rights at the Duck mill.

START NEW REIGN OF TERRORISM IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Courier 7-27-40

SPARTANSBURG, S. C., July 25—(ANP)—As a climax to the official parade here two weeks ago of the hooded members of the Ku Klux Klan, the Kluxers last Thursday again started a reign of terrorism, the first victims being Negroes, four brothers.

Object of the Klan search was a fifth brother, who was not at home. He had just paid a fine in Magistrate's Court, it was reported, for allegedly "sassing" a white woman. When the ruffians learned the fifth brother had eluded them they vented their anger on the other four.

The brothers, ranging in age from 16 to 30, were forced into autos and driven to the outskirts of the city, where they were disrobed and lashed severely with a leather strap. None was charged with a crime. Sheriff Sam M. Henry said he was informed the men were beaten when they refused to tell the hiding place of their brother who had "sassed" the white woman. Spartanburg is the home town of Senator Jimmy Byrnes, prominently mentioned as a Democratic vice-presidential candidate.

Names of the men were withheld, pending further investigation. They lived on the farm of the late J. R. Snoddy.

Pittsburgh Courier

The parade up the main street to the city park where the usual ceremonial was held and some dozen new members were initiated. The entire klan show was free and the public was invited to attend. The attendance was somewhat of a disappointment to the sponsors. Friday night the "Wings Over Jordan" appeared here with paid admissions and outdrew the klan free show.

Although highly publicized in advance, the klan parade was viewed only by the usual crowd of night windowshoppers along Main street. Some 40-odd cars carrying 200 klansmen unmasked, as was ordered by the imperial wizard some months ago, were in the procession. While no klansmen were masked with the old style hood, the majority wore smoked glasses a la Hollywood and as one wag remarked, only a mother would have known them.

A number of the cars bore crudely printed signs on white cloth. One sign in particular missed fire intended to read "No Fifth Column in U.S.A., K.K.K." The "No" for some reason was not visible and to most spectators it read, "Fifth Column in the U.S.A., K.K.K."

A young white child viewing the parade with his mother was overheard to say: "Mother, who are those people?" "That is the Ku Klux Klan, dear." "Are they white people, mother?" "Yes, they are white." "What do they do, mother?" "They claim to make people behave, dear." "But why, mother, if they are white and make people behave, do they dress so funny and wear dunce caps?"

SMOKED GLASSES INSTEAD OF MASKS

Courier

GREENVILLE, S. C., Aug. 3. (ANP)—Last Thursday night the klan staged a pa-

Carolina Ku Klux Klan Claim Negro Federal Agent Probing South

GREENVILLE, S. C., Feb. 1 (ANP)—Despite the fact that Governor Burnet R. Maybank has denied that a Negro federal investigator has been sent here to investigate activities of the Ku Klux Klan in various South Carolina towns, the rumor persists and credence is given it by many well informed persons.

Governor Maybank described the report as a deliberate attempt to hamper the investigation of Klan night riding activities which he ordered in Anderson, S. C., following the flogging of Lanier Pruitt, on the night of December 27.

White residents of Anderson say that if a Negro investigator has come to the city he has not made known his identity or his business there.

However, a Greenville colored resident said this week he had interviewed white labor officials in both Spartansburg and Greenville and that the local labor leader had said: "The colored man came to my house in a Cadillac about as long as my house and he showed me credentials that were undoubtedly authentic. He was a very intelligent fellow, but did appear a little nervous. There is no doubt he was a Negro and there is no doubt he was a government investigator."

WHITE MAN FLOGGED, COPS CATCH 'DEVIL'

ANDERSON, S. C., Jan. 18—Failure of police officers who were in the immediate vicinity to do anything when several cars of Ku Klux Klansmen kidnaped Lanier Pruitt, 27, white mechanic, last week and beat him brought the censure of the City Council last Friday night following a public probe into the flogging.

Then persons who testified they saw officers and at least one radio patrol car in the Pruitt neighborhood as the Klan abducted him unmolested caused the council to pass a resolution condemning these officers for a "serious error of judgment." Censured were two police captains, Dewey Welborn and Parker Clamp; one detective, William Acker, and three patrolmen, Olin James, Ed Sanders and Roy Shearer.

When the Klan appeared here several weeks before and either beat or molested many Negroes after riding through the entire colored section, no effort was made by local officials to investigate the matter nor were officers censured for their failure to act.

WHITE MEN BEATEN BY KLAN: GOV. GETS BUSY.

Anderson, S.C. Jan.11-Brutal beating of two white men which occurred here last Sunday night by hooded members of the Ku klux klan, resulted in the immediate issurance of an order from the sick bed of Gov. Burnett R. Maybank for a searching investigation of klan activities and the arrest of F.V. Johnson, chief of staff of the Ku Klux Klan in South Carolina.

The two white victims of the mob were: Lanier Pruitt, a mechanic, and R.C. Mitchell.

In addition to Johnson, State police under Chief J.H. Jeans, arrested Willis Harney, white a cafe employee, when Pruitt, said, was in the mob which took him from his homeand flogged him.

In issuing the order for the State police to proceed against the klan, Governor Maybank said:

"I want to publicy condemn such activity. Such things are un- Christian and un-American. I have demanded as Governor that Chief Jeans and the sheriff get to the bottom of this thing and arrest everybody they can find who participated in it. We have got to put an end to such things."

It is significant that there was no delay in the Governor's action after the beating of the white men. The klan has carried on a program of intimidation among colored citizens in Greenville and Anderson for several months without being molested.

Courier 1-13-40
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Governor Asks Probe of S. C. Klan

Colored G-Man Is Investigating Hooded Order

ANDERSON, S.C.—(ANP)—Following a second invasion of this city, last week, by the Ku Klux Klan, during which two colored men were roughly handled and a white man severely beaten, Gov. Burnett R. Maybank, from his sick bed in the executive mansion at Columbia, Saturday, ordered a searching investigation into activities of the hooded order and one man has already been arrested.

The State's chief executive issued the following statement:

"I want to publicly condemn such activity. Such things are un-Christian and un-American. I have demanded as governor that Chief Jeanes and the sheriff get to the bottom of this thing and arrest every one they can find who participated in it. We have got to put an end to such things. This sort of thing is the worst possible kind of advertising for the State. We have got to stop it."

Colored G-Man on Scene

In nearby Greenville, where the Klan in this district has its headquarters, it is understood that a special colored investigator, sent by Frank Murphy of Washington and answerable only to the attorney general, has been in the State for several days probing Klan activities.

The masked terrorists were also condemned, Monday, by Judge G. Duncan Bellinger of Columbia as Spartanburg County General Sessions Court opened.

In his charge to the grand jury, Judge Bellinger said in part:

Klan Parties Called "Mobs"

"Hooded night riders, or any other bands of men, however large, or small, over-riding the laws of this State to take the law into their own hands for the redress of grievances, are nothing more or less than mobs; and mob rule, however sporadic, cannot be tolerated if our government is to endure. It strikes at the foundation of our institutions and the very mudsills of an enlightened civilization.

"Suffered to continue, even briefly, it threatens the protection that organized society, under law, throws around the homes of the nation. When such a monster rears its head, it must be stamped upon with the might of the law. Law can never be enforced through lawlessness. Nor can respect for the law be conserved by those who do not themselves respect the law. Anarchy would sound the death knell of our boasted liberty under law.

Fears Federal Antilynch Law

"If you are willing to permit mobs to substitute themselves for the officers of the law and the courts, then we admit that we are not capable of governing ourselves and thereby invite the Congress of the United States to enact the antilynching statute to deal with mob violence in the Federal courts.

"I have pride of State. I still believe in State's rights. I do not want to see the Federal Government take over the enforcement of State laws. But this will surely come about if the States, by their lack of determined and immediate enforcement of their laws, admit they are powerless to cope with the rule of the mob."

S. Carolina Klan Probe Fizzles Out

ANDERSON, S.C., Feb. 29 — (ANP)—The investiagtion by State officers here of the Ku Klux Klan is gradually petering out. There have been no further arrests since the first klansmen were arrested about a month ago.

The results of the investigation by the Federal government have not been made public and it is believed in some quarters that there will be no Federal action against the South Carolina Klan, although the Negroes in the upper part of the State have been terrorized for months as a result of an unprecedented registration of colored voters last summer.

Frank McCallister, Southern secretary of the Workers' Defense League, has been particularly active in getting the authorities in Washington to take a hand in the investigation. He came to Greenville last summer after the klan started intimidating the newly-registered colored voters, and made public statements in defense of Negro rights in the matter of registration. McCallister made two trips to Washington in the interest of the klan situation in Greenville.

A statement in the white press that there was little likelihood of Federal interference has caused lights to burn in the klan halls again after being in darkness for over a month. In the Fork Shoals section of Greenville County, it is alleged that the klan has again started its reign of terror and one Negro has been carried from home and beaten severely.

CLAIM NEGRO FEDERAL AGENT PROBES S. C. KU KLUX KLAN

GREENVILLE, S. C., Feb. 1—(ANP)—Despite the fact that Governor Burnet R. Maybank has denied that a Negro federal investigator has been sent here to investigate activities of the Ku Klux Klan in various South Carlina towns, the rumor persists and credence is given it by many well informed persons.

Governor Maybank described the report as a deliberate attempt to hamper the investigation of Klan night riding activities which he ordered in Anderson, S. C., following the flogging of Lanier Pratt, on the night of December 27.

White residents of Anderson say that if a Negro investigator has come to the city he has not made known his identity or his business there.

However, a Greenville colored resident said this week he had interviewed white labor officials in both Spartanburg and Greenville and that the local labor leader had said: "The colored man came to my house in a Cadillac about as long as my house and he showed me credentials that were undoubtedly authentic. He was a very intelligent fellow, but did appear a little nervous. There is no doubt he was a Negro and there is no doubt he was a government investigator."

In Anderson Special Magistrate has issued warrants for seven alleged Klan members, including Fred V. Johnson, Greenville Klan leader. The seven defendants have been released pending trial on bonds of $5,000 each.

Anderson, S. C., Mail
March 26, 1940

Negro Congressman Charges U. S. Government Has Failed to Probe K. K. K. Floggings in South Carolina

WASHINGTON, March 26 (AP) The justice department was charged with failure to investigate alleged peonage and the Ku Klux Klan's flogging of negroes in the South by a group representing the National Negro Congress.

The group conferred here yesterday with O. John Rogge, assistant attorney general. The group said in a statement that there had been floggings and beatings of literally hundreds of negroes in South Carolina and other parts of the South.

It claimed the justice department had sought to cover up these facts, adding:

"Their failure to act raises the question of whether the administration intends to permit continual violation of the federal law in order to save for itself the solid South in the next presidential election."

Among the group were William L. Patterson of the International Labor Defense and James A. Brier, negro school teacher from Greenville, S. C.

At Miami, Fla., Attorney General Robert H. Jackson said the department of justice had announced some time ago it was investigating floggings in South Carolina.

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
March 26, 1940

FEDERAL PROBED ASKED

Negroes Says Klan Carries on 'Brutal Terror'

Washington, March 25.—(AP): A group representing the national negro congress demanded today that the justice department investigate alleged peonage and "brutal terror" being carried on in the South by the Ku Klux Klan.

A statement issued before a conference with O. John Rogge, assistant attorney general, charged the department with failure to act.

Members of the delegation said they had hoped to see Attorney General Jackson but he was in Florida.

The group included William L. Patterson of the International Labor Defense and the Chicago Abolish Peonage committee and James A. Brier, negro school teacher from Greenville, S. C.

KLAN HEAD BEATEN IN POLITICS

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh Pa
SEP 14 1940

COLUMBIA, S. C., Sept. 12—(By ANP)—Ben E. Adams, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan and candidate for State senator from Richmond country, ran third in a four-man race last week in the Democratic primary.

Previous to the Klan Bund alliance held in New Jersey some weeks ago, Adams was generally conceded to be the leading candidate for the office of State senator. A former candidate for the governorship, Dragon Adams had built up a strong following not only in the county but throughout the State.

It is generally believed here that Adams followers deserted him in the primary due to his leadership of the Ku Klux Klan. Membership in the Klan is fast becoming a stigma in the State since the Jersey Klan Bund meeting.

S.C. Hoodlum K.K.K. Again On Rampage

SENACA, S. C., April 26—(ANP)—Hooded bands of Klansmen have again started their forays in upper South Carolina. According to police officers here several cars of hooded men drove slowly through the streets of Seneca last Saturday night after having earlier burned crosses on the outskirts of Walhalla near a mill village.

Since the Race population in these towns is small, these latest Klan demonstrations were believed directed at discouraging labor organizers. This gives credence to the charges made by Mark Etheridge over his signature in the Southern Frontier issued by the Commission on Interracial Cooperation in Atlanta.

He said: "In South Carolina it has been pretty well developed there is at least sufficiently strong connection between some employees and the Ku Klux Klan to warrant investigation by the Federal government as to whether there is in effect a conspiracy to violate the Wagner act.

"To put it more bluntly, there is pretty good evidence that, whether they have financed the revival (of the K.K.K.) or not, some employers welcome it, particularly if the Klan is willing to list the CIO along with Negroes, Jews, and Catholics as its particular enemies."

S. C. Governor Wants Hooded Men Outlawed

COLUMBIA, S. C., March 22—(ANP)—Governor Maybank has recommended to the South Carolina general assembly the passage of laws making the wearing of masks a punishable offense. There is already a state law making it a felony to intimidate any person while wearing a mask.

There is little question of the chief executive's sincerity in his desire to stamp out night riding activities in South Carolina.

The trial of Fred Johnson and six other fellow Klansmen is scheduled for the May term of court in Anderson. Meanwhile Johnson is, according to the imperial wizard, James Colescott, chief of staff of the Klan in South Carolina.

Under Johnson's leadership the Klan has been successful in stopping the registration of Race citizens in Greenville county where they registered last summer over 600 strong under the leadership of the local branch of the N.A.A.C.P. The Klan started a reign of terrorism throughout the county and thus far in 1940, no Race member has applied for a registration certificate.

The report of the department of justice on Klan activities in this state is in the hands of Assistant Attorney General Rogge but as yet no action has been taken by the federal government.

The Workers Defense league is urging the enactment of federal legislation to outlaw hooded bands. The brutal killing of a white man near Atlanta by a night riding band is expected to hasten some form of federal legislation.

SEEKS TO MAKE IT ILLEGAL TO WEAR MASKS IN PUBLIC

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There is little question of the chief executive's sincerity in his desire to stamp out night riding activities in South Carolina.

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GRAND JURY FAILS TO HOLD K.K.K. ROWDIES

Release Hooded Hoodlums To Resume Reign Of Terror In State

ANDERSON, S. C.—(ANP)—While the courts in Atlanta continue to convict Klansman after Klansman, the grand jury here last week whitewashed and the seven Ku Klux Klansmen charged with every crime from conspiracy to highway robbery.

After hearing 100 witnesses and going over a report comprising several hundred pages, the county grand jury returned no bill against Fred V. Johnson, chief of staff of the Ku Klux Klan of this state, and seven of his fellow klansmen.

Immediately following the freeing of the members of the hooded bands that have terrorized upper South Carolina for months, Ben E. Adams, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, issued a statement declaring that the klan had been persecuted in Anderson and the entire case was "purely political."

In addition, Grand Dragon Adams said that the klan would be revived and "cooperate with the President in his drive against fifth column activities."

Since there are practically no aliens in the state and even the klan has never questioned the loyalty of Negroes, and communism is practically unknown here, the only worthwhile service Dragon Adams could perform for the country would be to turn the mirror on the un-American activities of his own organization.

The F.B.I. has doubled the number of G-men stationed in the state and it is believed in some quarters that the klan will be kept under close surveillance.

Brothers Beaten By Klan Members

SPARTANBURG, S. C. (ANP)—As a climax to an official parade here of the Ku Klux Klan, the Klukers started a reign of terrorism, the first victims being four Negro brothers.

Real object of the Klan search was a fifth brother who was not at home. He had, it was reported, "sassed" a white woman. The brothers, ranging in age from 16 to 30, were dis- they refused to tell the hiding they refused to tel lthe hiding place of their brother. The men lived on the farm of the late J. R. Snoddy.

S. C. Klan Forces Owner of Gas Station to Quit

City Returns Fee, Mrs. B. Patterson Has Permit Voided

By DAVIS LEE
Staff Correspondent

SPARTANBURG, S.C.—The local city council bowing to demands contained in a letter from the Ku Klux Klan, forced cancellation of license issued to Mrs. Blanche Patterson to operate a Standard Oil filling station on West Mail Street, and Mrs. Patterson was forced to move on Tuesday.

"Sorry but Helpless"

According to the Klan letter, Mrs. Patterson was taking business away from four white competitors in the same block and a demand was made upon the city council to cancel the license and order Mrs. Patterson to move.

B. E. Creighton, city license inspector, returned the money paid by Mrs. Patterson for the license, explaining that he was "sorry but powerless."

Mrs. Patterson, a heavy property owner and taxpayer, owns a fleet of new taxicabs and a Gulf service station on the East Side which she and her son, E. L. Collins, Johnson C. Smith graduate, has operated since 1933.

Citizens' Protests Ignored

A group of leading colored citizens recently drafted a letter of protest to the city council, stating that Mrs. Patterson's place was located in a colored neighborhood. The letter was ignored, and copies turned over to local newspapers suffered the same fate.

One white reporter is reported to have told the colored civic committee that Mrs. Patterson was "encouraging race mixing at her place" and that that was the reason for the Klan action.

Mrs. Patterson, suffering from shock and nervousness, was interviewed at her home, Tuesday evening, by an AFRO reporter. She stated that Attorney Platt and some leading colored citizens are planning legal action in her behalf.

Charge S. C. Policemen Are Klan Members

Move To Oust Negroes Charged By Investigators

CHARLESTON, S. C.—(ANP)—Completing what he described as nine months of investigating Ku-Klux Klan activities in Florida, Georgia and South Carolina, a white man who represented himself as authorized by a northern organization revealed this week that better than 50 per cent of policemen and police officials in South Carolina hold membership in the Ku Klux Klan.

While the bulk of this membership is concentrated in the upper state, a large number of coastal officials are also charged with membership.

The unprecedented charge followed immediately the reappointment of the Ku Klux Klan in full regalia in Spartanburg on parade with a police escort. The city council had allowed the parade but forbade wearing of robes and masks.

Ben Adams, candidate for governor in the 1938 gubernatorial race, grand dragon of South Carolina klansmen and Columbia publisher, is editor of "The South Carolina Police and Sheriffs Review," the secret investigator charged.

"Whether it is public knowledge of not," he continued, "a move is on foot to force Negroes out of the state; and this has the whole hearted support of both the klan and most police officials."

Like associations are found between police authorities and the Ku Klux Klan in Georgia and Florida, he declared, and such relationship explains practically the brazen flogging and outrages the klan has been able to get away with.

Four Brothers Are Horse Beaten By Kluxers

SPARTANBURG, S. C.—Four brothers, tenants on a farm near here, were dragged from their home and flogged by a band of twenty Klansmen in full regalia, early Friday morning, because they would not reveal the whereabouts of a fifth brother.

The robed and hooded mobbists had no other complaint against the victims, identified as Ernest, L. P., James and Benny Bomar.

Roy Bomar, whom they sought, was fined in Magistrate's Court several weeks ago on a disorderly conduct charge for having allegedly made an improper remark to a white woman.

Landlord Feared Violence

First indication that violence was contemplated came s everal days earlier ,when Sam M. Snoddy, white owner of the farm on which the Bomar brothers were tenants notified the sheriff's office that a strange white man had asked him where Roy Bomar could be found.

When the same information was sought from the brothers and they replied that they did not know, a spokesman for the Klansmen said, "Well we'll help you to remember."

Flogged With Strap

The men were then forced into four cars, driven to a wooded section of Nesbitt's bridge between Woodruff and Glenn Springs, partially stripped and beaten with a leather strap until the skin on their bodies was broken in a number of places.

Taken back to within a few miles of their home, they were put and warned to "keep off the highways."

Sheriff Sam M. Henry said his office was checking severa l outomobile license numbers in an effort to identify members of the mob, but would not reveal what progress, if any, had been made toward bringing about any arrests.

Greenville, S. C. Piedmont
July 19, 1940

Klan Supports Union, Charge

CIO Declares Independents At Columbia Sponsored By Hooded Band

WASHINGTON, July 19—(AP)—Counsel for CIO's Textile Workers Union asserted at a labor board hearing today that the Independent Employes Association of Columbia (S. C.) mills was "sponsored by the Ku Klux Klan."

It was not a bona fide labor organization, CIO Attorney David Jaffey contended, and its petition for a bargaining election at the mill should be denied.

Ben E. Adams, representing the independent group, identified himself at the hearing as grand dragon for the Ku Klux Klan for South Carolina. He said some workers came to him in 1939 and said they were dissatisfied with the CIO union, which held a contract at the mill. He related that he advised them to "organize under some other banner" and as a result the independent was chartered.

Adams said the Independents had 570 of the mill's 1,150 employes as members. The CIO union contended that employes within the appropriate bargaining unit numbered only 950. Its contract expired July 12.

Attorney R. H. Brazzell, also representing the CIO union, described the independent as a "fifth column, recognized Un-American affiliate of the Ku Klux Klan" and said it did not permit negro workers to be members.

Jaffey argued that no bargaining election should be held at least until the labor board investigated the "scandalous connection of the independent and the Ku Klux Klan." He read into the record what he said was a quotation from Adams' publication "The Free Press" saying:

"The CIO cannot live in South Carolina."

The article urged independent unions, Jaffey said, to "form throughout South Carolina to return liberty and freedom to the people."

as outrageous. The grand jury said in part in its presentment "We have no place in our community for this kind of lawlessness. It is never justifiable for hooded and robed men to take the law into their hands."

The jury urged citizens of the county to cooperate with the police "in an effort to bring to justice that band of hooded and robed men who, in the night time took advantage of innocent Negroes and beat them unmercifully."

Circulars Defend Action

Shortly after the presentment of the grand jury, circulars appeared on the street here defending the action of the floggers. Captioned in huge letters, the circulars mentioned the alleged attack of a white girl by a young Negro about a week ago. In this case, in no way connected with the flogging of the four Negroes, the girl stated that she was not harmed and a medical examination also revealed that she was unharmed.

The usual klan method when the authorities are close on their trail was evidenced in this case. A Negro is usually falsely accused of rape to distract attention from their own crime and to justify their action. The action of the grand jury has undoubtedly created fear in the klan ranks. For the first time here a grand jury has pledged to bring to justice hooded night riding bands.

S. C. GRAND JURY TERMS KLAN BEATINGS OUTRAGEOUS

SPARTANBURG, S. C., Aug. 8—(ANP)—The Spartanburg grand jury termed the flogging of four innocent Negroes here last week

South Carolina Klan Chief Is Arrested

ANDERSON, S. C., Jan. 4.—(AP)—Fred V. Johnson, of Greenville, chief of staff for the Ku Klux Klan in South Carolina, was arrested and two of his brief cases were seized today by Chief J. Henry Jeanes, of the State constabulary, who was sent here by Governor Burnet R. Maybank to investigate the reported flogging of an Anderson mechanic by a hooded and white-robed band.

Jeanes said Johnson was being "held for investigation." When seen at the county jail, Johnson declined to make any statement.

The constabulary chief also announced the posting of a $250 reward for evidence leading to conviction of leaders of the band which Lamar Pruitt, 27-year-old mechanic, said abducted and beat him on the night of December 27.

GOVERNOR ACTS AFTER WHITE MAN BEATEN

Fear Activity May Pass Lynch Bill

ANDERSON, S. C., Jan. 11 (ANP)—Following a second invasion last week of this city by the Ku Klux during which two Negroes were roughly handled and a white man severely beaten, Gov. Burnett R. Maybank from his sickbed in the executive mansion at Columbia Saturday ordered a searching investigation into activities of the hooded order.

One man has already been arrested. It was also pointed out that Klan activity might influence passage of federal anti-lynching legislation.

The state's chief executive, thoroughly disgusted with the result of the Klan, ordered some months ago, issued the following statement:

"I want to publicly condemn such activity. Such things are un-Christian and un-American. I have demanded as governor that Chief Jeanes and the sheriff get to the bottom of this thing and arrest every one they can find who participated in it. We have got to put an end to such things. This sort of thing is the worst possible kind of advertising for the state. We have got to stop it."

Investigator in State

In nearby Greenville, where the Klan in this district has its headquarters, it is understood that a special Negro investigator sent by Frank Murphy of Washington and answerable only to the attorney general has been in the state for several days probing Klan activities.

When the white robed mob came here several weeks ago, a motorcade progressed through the entire colored section. Many Negroes were searched and attacked. The night riders also visited several other neighboring towns where other Negroes were assaulted.

During the second trip here, after manhandling the two Negroes in a pool room the Klan went to the home of Lanier Pruitt, 27, white mechanic, and at gun point took him away to a point 10 miles from here where he was lashed with a leather strap 25 times. Pruitt was accused of "striking his seven year old child, not paying his debts and failing to provide Christmas presents for his family." Pruitt denied all charges, saying his only child was a baby, 11 months old.

Force Entrance Into Homes

The Klan also forced entrance into the homes of two other white persons but did no more than frighten the occupants.

Gov. Maybank has dispatched Chief Henry Jeanes of the constabulary here to head the investigation. Both Jeanes and any other state officials are expected to work with local authorities on this matter.

One of the Chief Jeanes' first acts was to arrest Willis W. Hraney, 25, local cafe employe, on a charge of assault and battery. Pruitt is understood to have positively identified Harney as one of the Klansmen who beat him. He is being held under $5,000 bail as other arrests are expected.

It is believed the probe will extend to Greenville and all other towns visited by the Klan or where Klan activities center.

Judge Condemns Terrorists

The masked terrorists were also condemned Monday by Judge G. Duncan Bellinger of Columbia as Spartanburg county general sessions court opened Tuesday.

The jurist said toleration of mob rules is an invitation to the federal government to enact the anti-lynching statute to deal with mob violence in federal courts. A state law provides imprisonment of from one to 10 years for any person, individually or as a group, while wearing a mask or otherwise disguised, to assault, offer to assault, threaten, menace or intimidate any other person or persons.

In his charge to the grand jury, Judge Ballinger said in part:

Threatens Civilization

"Hooded night riders, or any other bands of men, however large or small, overriding the laws of this state to take into their own hands what they pretended is the redress of grievances, are nothing more or less than mobs; and mob rule, however sparodic, cannot be tolerated if our government is to endure. It strikes at the foundation of our institutions and the very mudsills of an enlightened civilization.

"Suffered to continue, even briefly, it threatens the protection that organized society, under law throws around the homes of the nation. When such a monster rears its head, it must be stamped upon with the might of the law. Law can never be enforced through lawlessness. Nor can respect for the law be conserved by those who do not themselves respect the law. Anarchy would sound the death knell of our boasted liberty under law.

"If you are willing to permit mobs to substitute themselves for the officers of the law and the courts, then we admit that we are not capable of governing ourselves and thereby invite the congress of the United States to enact the anti-lynching statute to deal with mob violence in the federal courts. I have pride of state. I still believe in state's rights. I do not want to see the federal government take over the enforcement of state laws. But this will surely come about if the the states, by their lack of determined and immediate enforcement of their laws, admit they are powerless to cope with the rule of the mob."

EXECUTIVE, FROM SICK BED, ORDERS INVESTIGATION INTO HOODED ORDER ACTIVITIES

Revival of Kluxers May Influence Passage Of Anti-Lynching Bill; Governor Maybank Publicly Condemns Brutalities

JAIL KLAN CHIEF

GREENVILLE, S. C.—(ANP) — Fred V. Johnson, chief of staff for the Ku Klux Klan in this state and leading champion of "white supremacy," who led the wave of terrorism against Negroes inspired by colored persons registering in large numbers last summer for the city elections, was arrested and two of his brief cases seized Friday by Chief Henry Jeanes of the state constabulary investigating the Klan flogging of an Anderson white mechanic on direct orders of Gov. Burnet R. Maybank.

Jeanes said Johnson was being held "for investigation." The Klan chief declined to make any statement.

A reward of $250 for evidence leading to conviction of the floggers of Lamar Pruitt, the Anderson mechanic, was also announced by the constabulary head.

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The state's chief executive, thoroughly disgusted with the result of his state constables' probe of the Klan, ordered some months ago, issued the following statement:

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Negro Prober at Work

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Search, Attack Negroes

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Make an Arrest

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Will Not Be Tolerated

"Hooded night riders, or any other bands of men, however large, or small, overriding the laws of this state to take into their own hands what they pretended is the redress of grievances, are nothing more or less than mobs; and mob rule, however sporadic, cannot be tolerated if our government is to endure. It strikes at the foundation of our institutions and the very mudsills of enlightened civilization. Suffered to continue, ever briefly, it threatens the protection that organized society, under law, throws around the homes of the nation. When such a monster rears its head, it must be stamped upon with the might of the law. Law can never be enforced through lawlessness. Nor can respect for the law be conserved by those who do not themselves respect the law. Anarchy would sound the death knell of our boasted liberty under law.

"If you are willing to permit mobs to substitute themselves for the officers of the law and the courts, then we admit that we are not capable of governing ourselves and thereby invite the congress of the United States to enact the anti-lynching statute to deal with mob violence in the federal courts. I have pride of state. I still believe in state's rights. I do not want to see the federal government take over the enforcement of state laws. But this will surely come about if the states, by their lack of determined and immediate enforcement of their laws, admit they are powerless to cope with the rule of the mob."

Federal Government Begins Probe Of S. C. Ku Klux Klan

Inquiry Into Flogging Is Started

GREENVILLE, S. C.— (ANP)— The federal government took official notice of the South Carolina Ku Klux Klan last Thursday when officials began an inquiry into last Fall's night riding raids and other activities of the hooded mob.

Daily World 1-31-41

It was learned that among the documents taken recently from Fred V. Johnson, Klan leader, are a number of records which reportedly indicate that one of the chief objects of the Klan is to act as a spy service in the mills and industrial plants of the state.

The Southern Vigilant Intelligence association, an espionage service available in the south to industrial plants is believed to be Klan fostered and sponsored. Such spying is in violation of the Wagner labor bill.

Fred Johnson, chief of staff, Ku Klux Klan a Realm of South Carolina, is being called by the colored folk here, "In again, out again, in again Johnson." Arrested, among his effects were a number of colored weeklies, which he was allowed to keep. Johnson was bailed out but one of his bondsmen withdrew, and again Johnson slept in jail until a second bondsman arranged for his release.

His other business undoubtedly is suffering in nearby Greenville In addition to his Klan activities Johnson conducts Johnson Agencies of Commercial Service Bureau. He is district agent of a life insurance association, handles realestate, general insurance and rentals. and also conducts employment, collection and advertising services.

JAILS KLANSMAN IN FLOGGING PROBE

Down in Greenville, South Carolina, Fred V. Johnson, chief of staff of the Ku Klux Klan, realm of South Carolina, is in the county jail, being held for investigation into the klan flogging of a white man.

Johnson was ordered arrested by Governor Burnet R. Maybank, who, it is stated, is "tired of the terrorism of the klan in the state."

This arrest of a leader of the Ku Klux Klan in the state of South Carolina interests us very much because it was this same Fred V. Johnson who led a campaign of terrorism among the colored people of the state following an effort on the part of the Negroes to register in large numbers for city election last summer. The hooded bands could be seen almost nightly in the Negro section of the city going into their places of business, using threats and words of intimidation of all kinds. But it so happens that in the flogging of their victims that a white man was beaten. Thus the klan in South Carolina went a step too far and when the news reached the governor he ordered an investigation. The state constabulary not only arrested Johnson but they also seized two of his brief cases to be used in the investigation. It is reported that the governor has offered a reward of $200 for information leading to the conviction of the floggers of the white mechanic.

The klan, as will be remembered, like the lynchers, rides and terrorizes Negroes at will and for the "fun of the thing," and the law enforcement officers do nothing to restrain the klan's activities, but now that a white mechanic has been flogged, the governor is all up in arms over the incident. And while it is true that we sympathize and suffer with the white man who was the victim of the klansmen, yet it is our hope that should the klan continue its activities in the state of South Carolina, it will find a few more white mechanics to flog.

Washington confirmed the rumor that two federal agents, Bates Booth and John Lyman, are in South Carolina to investigate Klan activities, pressure is being brought from several sources to bring before the Dies committee several Klan leaders.

Solicitor Rufus Fant of Anderson stated that another Klan sortie in Anderson would result in bloodshed. This statement by the tenth circuit solicitor was issued after he had been shown a pamphlet purporting to have been issued by the grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in Columbia. This pamphlet stated there was a possibility of a Klan demonstration in Anderson as a protest against the arrest of a number of Klansmen there recently.

Solicitor Fant said, "People in Anderson county are armed and any further attempt to intimidate them by masked bands will result in bloodshed."

Chief Constable J. Henry Jeanse stated last week that a number of persons are appearing voluntarily and have given very valuable information regarding Klan activities in the state.

BELIEVE DIES MEN HAVE EYE ON KLAN LEADERS OF STATE

Courier 2-17-40

Spartanburg, S.C.

Greenville, Known as Klan Headquarters of the State, Being Watched By Two Federal Agents, Is Report.

ANDERSON, S. C., Feb. 15. (ANP)—Some concern is being felt among officials in some South Carolina towns as to the scope of the pending government investigation of the Ku Klux Klan. In nearby Greenville, a number of citizens have inquired of local federal officials as to the possibility of G-Men investigating Klan activity there. Greenville is known as the Klan headquarters for the upper part of the state.

As official statement from the Federal Bureau of Investigation in

KU KLUX KLAN - 1940

TEXAS

EFFIGY OF NEGRO HANGED WITH NOTE FROM KLAN HEADS

DALLAS, Texas, Aug. 15.—With the rest of the world facing the crisis of war—nations fighting nations, hunger and pestilence rampant in many countries, here in Dallas many of the white citizens are still fighting the Civil War, using many of the antebellum tactics handed down by history. First one section and then another . . . North, South and East Dallas . . . the same chaos . . . white citizens protesting the invasion of Negro home owners in their respective neighborhoods. The dailies are being flooded with letters, many of them containing veiled threats aimed at Negroes who would dare to disregard their warnings.

SOUTH DALLAS NEGRO HUNG IN EFFIGY

Answering a call to investigate a man dangling from a telephone pole on the corner of Myrtle and Lobdell streets last Wednesday night, police found instead a Negro dummy upon which a placard read—"I moved in and out."

Also affixed to the make-believe lynching victim was a Ku Klux Klan pamphlet titled "The Klan Today" . . . Among many things the pamphlet is said to have strongly advocated was white supremacy. According to eye witnesses, the dummy was placed there by three white men who drove to the spot together in a car.

The witness further stated that a Negro later passed the corner, saw the dummy, removed the placard and tossed it to the ground . . . again a car came to the scene this time containing a white woman and two men. The woman is alleged to have replaced the placard. Police are said to have arrived after that. Police Sergeant R. R. Stewart presumably said that the hanging was construed as a warning directed at a Negro who recently purchased a home in the neighborhood. Residents who declined to be quoted, stated that it was generally understood that the Negro had been warned by a delegation of whites not to move into the house.

COURTS ASKED TO INTERVENE IN N. DALLAS

A suit was filed last Thursday in the 101st District Court by 17 home owners asking the alleged negotiations to sell properties to Negroes in the Howell, Bower and adjoining neighborhood be halted. The plaintiffs claimed damages to the amount of $500 for alleged harrassing and threats by the defendants, (nine other home owners) to sell the property. The plaintiffs asked for an injunction restraining them from selling their properties to any persons of the Negro race, and restraining a tenth person, Anna B. Wright, from purchasing any of the property.

The action was brought as a class suit, and allegations were made that back in 1939 agreements existed between plaintiffs and defendants that no one would sell any property on the street to Negroes. The plaintiffs further aver that the sale would inevitably lead to trouble between the members of the two races, promote ill-feeling and lead to riots and bloodshed, so the petition asserted . . . the beauty and comfort of the homes of white persons would be destroyed by the transaction, so the plaintiffs said.

EAST DALLAS CALLS ON CITY COUNCIL

City councilmen were faced with the problem of arbitration in East Dallas when a group headed by O. A. Prather, 1504 Pecos street, appeared protesting the influx of Negroes in his area of Hall, Haskell, Bryan and San Jacinto streets. Mr. Prather said residents resented Negroes coming in their neighborhood and asked help from the city to stop it. Real estate men have been blamed for causing the upheaval . . . and the problem arising in many instances from the home seekers leaving the Hall-Thomas area necessitated by the proposed housing project.

City officials have pointed out repeatedly, however, that they are powerless to act in such situations because laws do not permit discrimination between races and that nothing can be done legally to prevent Negroes from moving into white residential sections.

REAL ESTATE MEN KEEP BUSY

For several weeks local dailies have carried advertising copy pointing out vicinities where Negro clients would be welcome. Some of the firms resort to ludicrous wording to attract the crowds . . . One reads, "Large river front tracts, all of the fried catfish, yellow-legged chickens, pork chops, sweet potatoes and watermelons you can catch, raise, cook and eat . . . close to courthouse, etc."

Dies Committee Asked To Probe Bombings In Dallas

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Congressman Martin Dies, of Texas, who announced recently that his committee on un-American activities would investigate subversive activities by Communists, Fascists and other groups among Negroes in Dallas, was asked by the NAACP. to investigate the Klan and the bombings of Negro homes in Dallas.

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The NAACP letter cited the attack last September on Dr. Geo. F. Porter when the latter went to the court house in Dallas in answer to a jury summons. Dr. Porter was tossed head first down the courthouse steps. With respect to the bombing of Negro homes in Dallas within the past few weeks, the NAACP declared:

"These acts, rather than the action of Negroes in purchasing property pursuant to their Constitutional right and their attempt in their property, are the real un-American activities."

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Copies of the letter were sent to President Roosevelt and to other members of the Dies Committee, to Speaker Sam Rayburn, also from Texas and to Henry A. Wallace.

Klan Show Race Baiting Film to Raise Demo Party Funds In State Capitol

Northwest Enterprise 8-29-40 Seattle, Wash.

By D. C. P.

Heavily billed and advertised, on August 13-14, Thurston County Democrats will stage the much hated "Birth of A Nation" picture in Olympia, Washington for the purpose of raising funds for the Democratic party, and to ask that Negro Democrats of Washington aid in perpetuating it.

Olympia is the capital city of the state. Yet, Olympia, for years has been widely known for its prejudice against Negroes. So deeply imbedded is it that it has permeated not only every public building in the city, but leaves its virus in the executive chamber.

So deeply set is prejudice in Olympia, that it appears that all the Klansmen that had left Texas and Missouri, have found their way in the capital of our state. With the injection of new blood into their stalemated camp, Olympia KKK's have grown bold and removed their masks.

To accentuate their cause and fill their depleted coffers, Thurston County Democrats will build their flaming crosses anew right in the heart of Olympia. Democrats of the type who would in these perilous times use such a race hatred inciting cinema as "The Birth Of A Nation" to raise money are the type that preside at any crossroad where a helpless Negro is lynched, the same type that would ride the night with rope and torch in quest of a black man; the same type that would like to hear the crackling flames as they arise from the crucifixion of some hunted black man, while women and children, drunk with ghoulish glee fight for ghastly souvenirs.

It is doubtful if democrats ever seriously considered their obligations to the public.

One of the committee who is sponsoring The Birth of a Nation is the Purchasing Agent of the Budget and Service under Governor Clarence D. Martin.

One of the ticket sellers is Custodian of Building and Ground under Governor Clarence D. Martin.

No, Democrats are not aware of their responsibility. If Thurston County Democrats' minds crave excitement such as can come from Klansmen or Birth of a Nation, come on down to Seattle where 3,000 varieties of freaks roam the strets at wiill, where not even a baby is safe after dark.